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*The Wisp Celebrates 50 Years*



**WISP**  
RESORT

Skis and snowboards outside McHenry House.

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *The Wisp Celebrates 50 Years*

*by John A. Grant*

**I**n December of 2005, the Wisp Ski Slope began its 50th year of providing winter recreation on its ski slopes. Back in 1955 it was used only by dedicated downhill skiers; now, there is something for everyone. Also, after 50 years of existence, the Wisp is gradually fulfilling its original concept of a "four seasons recreation facility"; something going on there every month of the year.

In the beginning there was a single slope down the face of Marsh Mountain; on it was a small area set aside for beginning skiers. The rope tow went past this area, but not many beginning skiers could maneuver be-

ing pulled up with the rope. Today, there is a moving belt that a person can stand on to go up the slope.

The number of slopes has grown since the opening of the Wisp 50 years ago; now there are 32 slopes of various steepness and length for beginners to experts; they range from easy to more difficult to most difficult. And altogether they cover 10.5 miles. There are chair lifts to carry skiers to the top of the long slopes.

Ford Built Tough Terrain Park has jumps to test the skill of both skiers and snowboarders alike.

One of the most popular attractions at the Wisp is Bear Claw Snow



The enlarged McHenry House at the Wisp.



**A motel/hotel provides housing for Wisp visitors.**

Tubing Park consisting of ten parallel slopes where people can ride down the lanes on a big round rubber tube. Going back up is also fun, because

there is a tow attachment that will pull a person riding the tube back up the hill again. Anyone, regardless of experience, can ride on the tubing slope;



**A moving belt now replaces the rope tow.**





**Inner tubes and passengers at Bear Claw.**

only requirement is that children must be at least 42 inches tall.

It has to be remembered that before the Wisp was developed other ski slopes in the county had to depend on natural snowfall to supply snow for skiing. Some years there would be an abundance of snow, but other years were very unpredictable with snow that lasted only a day or two before melting away. From the beginning, the Wisp used snow making machines that covered the ski trails with several feet of snow; operators of the resort were always ready to make snow as early in the season as possible, hoping to have a few trails open by Thanksgiving weekend. With the gradual improvement of snow making machines, the trails can have

snow on them within hours of the atmosphere reaching proper snow-making temperature.

When a person looks at the Wisp complex today, it is a far cry from the original 10 x 20 "warming hut" heated by a potbellied stove. Refreshment consisted of hot coffee and whatever the skiers might bring with them; ski rentals were handled from the back of a pickup truck. Then, in 1958, the McHenry House was built. It provided shelter and refreshment for skiers in the daytime, along with a shopping area for additional clothing. Soon the Bavarian Room was opened in the McHenry House, and it quickly became one of the most popular night spots on Deep Creek Lake.

In 1969 lights were added to the

ski slopes for night skiing, and a new phase of use was added to the Wisp trails.

However, the management was still aiming toward the concept of a "four seasons resort center"; a part of that concept was to provide lodging for visitors to the Wisp. It became a reality in 1971 when the 48 room high-rise motel was constructed not far from the McHenry House. Later, an 18 hole golf course was built near this motel, and from that time onward, it was possible to attract additional customers on a year-round basis.

That same year Garrett Community College also became a reality at the nearby village of McHenry. It

was one of the many things to attract more attention to that end of Deep Creek Lake.

Today, 50 years after the first season, the Wisp now has many attractions for visitors, local and far away. Periodically, there are different types of concerts in the huge dining area of the enlarged McHenry House, or perhaps a big "gala" affair with every table in the room occupied.

Yet, there are continued plans for more development of the Wisp; they now include a mountain village, with retail shops and restaurant facilities on top of Marsh Mountain as more of the "four seasons recreation facilities."



The large dining room at McHenry House.



# Wisp Ski Slope 50 Years Ago

by John A. Grant

Back in the 1930s, people who knew about skiing would speculate on the future of the north slope of Marsh Mountain. It was steep and

In 1947, speculation turned into a real plan to develop this part of Marsh Mountain. Mr. Kenneth Clark of North Hampton, Mass., made

there were cleared fields part way to the top. Snow would lie in those high fields until late April; sometimes even until May. Artificial snow-making machines were unknown in those days, and an early thaw could bring an abrupt end to skiing in Garrett County.

an attempt to promote the idea of year-round use of Marsh Mountain. Unfortunately, Kenneth Clark's plan never came to fruition, but the seed had been planted. Winter recreation in Garrett County was a reasonable concept, and the north slope of Marsh Mountain was the ideal place in the



Skiers at McHenry House in 1984.

Deep Creek Lake area for a commercial ski slope.

Commercial ski slopes were tried in other locations in Garrett County, but they didn't last beyond a season or two. They were dependent on natural snow fall and were successful when there would be an abundance of snow all winter long. Then, the weather cycle would shift, giving several years when there came alternate periods of warm weather with rain and all the snow would melt away before the next snowfall.

Finally, it took the ingenuity and perseverance of Mr. Helmuth Heise to establish a commercial ski slope on Marsh Mountain. He owned the Will O' the Wisp cabins and motel group three miles away on another part of Deep Creek Lake. He leased the Marsh Mountain site from Webster Brenneman. Then he began a project

with the physical and financial assistance of the business men in the newly organized Deep Creek Lake / Garrett County Promotional Council.

Ski trails were cut through the woods, and brush was removed from the open fields. Mr. Heise, himself, drove a Ford truck to Stowe, Vermont, to purchase a used rope-tow for the ski slope. When the 1956-57 ski season arrived, the ski slope was ready for customers.

The mechanics of handling "out of town" customers for the ski slope is best described by Charles "Skeeter" Bowman.

"When all was ready, we had enough volunteers to work on the slope, and to drive school buses into town to meet the 'ski train.' The B.&O. tagged the National Limited as a 'ski train' on Friday evenings, and provided special coaches for passen-



Snow-making machine in action.

gers coming to Oakland to ski.

"Most of the time things went pretty smoothly, but no plan can ever be perfect. One night the train didn't stop in Oakland, and we had to take the school buses to Terra Alta to pick up everyone. Another time it blew up such a snow storm that the roads were closed, and the skiers had to spend Friday night in the Oakland

Fire Hall."

But Helmuth Heise, "Skeeter" Bowman, and the rest of the business men persisted and the first ski season closed successfully.

Since then, the Wisp has grown over the past 50 years and developed into an "all seasons" resort with activities taking place throughout the entire year.



Skiing became a family activity. Photo 1984.

## *Flower Fund for Dailey Park*

The Garrett County Historical Society wishes to establish a monetary "Flower Fund" to provide spring, summer, and fall beautification annually in Dailey Park, the hotel porch, and at the museum entrance. Memorial and honorary donations will be immediately acknowledged by mail and quarterly in the *Glades Star*. Donations may be brought to the museum office or mailed to Box 28, Oakland, MD 21550.



# Garrett County Living History Programs

by Jo Donaldson

Meet George Washington in his pre-revolutionary war uniform. Taste early American cuisine such as hard tack and follow the tracks of General Braddock as the English military cut a road through Garrett County on its way to Fort Duquesne. Experience the history that was being made in these mountains before there was a nation and long before there was a Garrett County. Events of 1755 ultimately changed the world. The gateway to a new country was through this area.

Living historians are working to keep the history of America's early frontier alive. They choose a character from that time period and try to dress, act and even think as that person would. It is more than just wearing something from a period of history. The living historians try to be able to answer a variety of questions about their people and the world in which they lived.

Dave Bicker of Grantsville is a frontier magistrate for a period of time. Ryan Cuba of Cumberland is a fur trader and displays many of the tools of his trade. Todd Johnson from McKeesport, Pennsylvania, temporarily



**Jack Caruthers as George Washington with Todd Johnson as the Huron "Ghost-in-the-Head."**

ily becomes Ghost-in-the-Head, a Huron who has headaches and hates the English. Jack Caruthers of Grantsville stands tall as George Washington. Even young people like Austin Meschach Browning of Oakland and Zack Durst of Grantsville are getting involved in the programs.

"This is a chance to learn what life was like when young Washington



**Bob Bantz with some students who hiked Braddock's Trail in 2005.**

passed through these mountains. The significance of these events on our country's history must be recognized," said Charlie Ross, president of the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the event. "We want to preserve this history in the minds of our young people."

The Chamber of Commerce's Living History programs focus on the then future president of the United States, George Washington, and the years he traveled through Garrett County, including the ill-fated trip of General Edward Braddock. A recent television documentary, "The War that Made America," began with the time period covered during these programs. Washington's trips through the area on behalf of the Governor of Virginia and his participation with the British military were among key events leading to the French and

Indian War.

More than 170 county students and teachers took part in the program in November to travel back in time for the 251st anniversary of Colonel George Washington's first expedition on the Nemacolin Trail. Approximately 350 students from nine Garrett County elementary schools attended last spring's Living History program. Students had a chance to taste frontier food, as well as hear from Ghost-in-the-Head, a Maryland Provincial Soldier of the French and Indian War, a member of Dagworthy's Company of the Maryland Forces, a merchant, and a fur trader for the Ohio Company located at Wills Creek and other living historians. Some students had the opportunity to fire a musket, dress in colonial uniform and march Braddock's Trail.





**"Ghost-in-the-Head" lets young Zack try a musket as his grandparents, Jean and Bill Durst of Grantsville, look on.**

"Being able to see, touch and learn how these different items were used leaves a lasting impression on students," said Jean Durst, who works with the colonial clothing. "Step back to this time, when George Washington led an expedition on the Nemacolin Trail, marched with General Braddock and camped in Garrett County as he marched to destiny in the French and Indian War," said Ross.

Living History programs are held for Garrett County students Wednesday through Friday, May 17 through 19 at the Western Maryland 4-H

Center, off Route 495 near Grantsville, Md. Some time is available in the afternoon for others interested in the program. Ross wants to continue promoting these types of events for county students and later to offer more of these programs to young people from outside the county, as well as to visitors in the area. Similar programs will be held certain Saturdays during the spring and summer beside Spruce Forest, Grantsville. The first is planned for Saturday, May 20. The actual encampments may include a trading post exhibit of artifacts,



**Dave Bicker of Grantsville and Austin Meshach Browning at an early Living History program.**

historical characters in period dress, movies and colonial cooking. Different parts of the area's history and culture may vary from week to week. All include a variety of workshops, lectures and demonstrations for those interested in American history or life on the early frontier. Frontier men

and women and Indians share stories from the 1750s while participating at the trading post and encampment.

Guest speakers include well-known historian Robert Adamovich, who lectures and writes about the commerce, the people, and the customs of colonial America. Adamovich is an elected member of the board of directors of the Braddock Road Preservation Association, acting curator of the Rinfuss Museum at Jumonville, and a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and other historic societies. His television show "Historically Speaking" is aired on HSTV.

"My passion for this period of our history has prompted me to provide graphic images in the form of historical artwork. My creation of 'A Map of West Pennsylvania' serves as a vital tool in my explanation of the exact locations where certain events occurred," he said. During research Adamovich discovered that it was on the land he now owns that



**Garrett County students learn as they hike Braddock's Trail.**



George Washington met the Indian chief Half King and decided to surprise the French at Jumonville Glen. He later learned that his driveway is part of Nema-colin's Trail. Local historian Bob Bantz of Grantsville leads students along a public section of Braddock's Trail. He discovered Braddock's Trail several years ago and converted its location on the ground using GPS imaging. He worked with the State Park system and the Living History Committee to post signs—designed by Adamovich—marking parts of the trail.

The man who was to become the first President of the United States followed the Nema-colin Indian Trail in 1753. Then in 1754, Washington's troops cut a road somewhat following this trail. Later, in 1755, Braddock's troops forged a new road. It was along this road that George Washington marched to his destiny.

"It was a young Col. George Washington who led Colonial militia across northern Garrett County in 1754 heading toward Fort Duquesne," said Ross. "We can revisit that time and reconnect with the people who were forming the future of our nation."

It took weeks to hack through the wilderness to construct the road. Braddock strove to drive the French from the area and died in retreat. Young George Washington was



**A young student learns what soldiers wore and carried in the 1700s. Ryan Cuba demonstrates.**

among those who survived. His skills as a leader of men were developed along this trail. As a surveyor, as a soldier and as a government representative, he matured with each trip. "George Washington got his start here," said Caruthers. "He found out he could lead men in combat."

Also assisting with the Living History programs are Arlene Lantz, Paul Shogren, Bill Durst, Tom and Juanita Browning and Sarah Halberstadt.

More information on area programs is available at [www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com) or by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 301-387-4386.

# Overcoming Winter

by John A. Grant

A farmer said, "You step out on the porch on a crisp winter night and you can hear them from several directions. Once in a while you might see their lights going across a neighbor's field."

Then there was the hospitable patient who said, "I knew there was a wire fence at the end of the field. I could even see it, but it was so wonderful zipping through clear night air, I just didn't want to slow down . . . and then it was too late."

Thus were some of the comments made in the 1960s or 1970s when snowmobiles became ultra-popular in Garrett County as a means of overcoming winter.

## HISTORY

The snowmobile has a history that goes back into the early part of the 1900s. At first they were adaptations of existing machines. Back in 1901, Alvin Lombard devised an over-the-snow steam powered log hauler. Although not strictly a snowmobile it was the first machine to adopt the "lag tread" which is now a part of the modern snowmobile.

Speed over the snow was first achieved by a man named Gilbertson of Karlstad, Minn. In 1910 he used an automobile engine mounted on a wooden chassis to power a spiked drive wheel. With two support runners behind and a single steering runner in the front, his "sleigh mobile" could attain speeds of 50 mph.

Mr. Carl Ellison shares credit with Joseph-Armand Bombardier as "father of the snowmobile." Working from a different approach to the

problem, both men proved that small, reliable, inexpensive snowmobiles could be produced on a sustained production basis. With their machines they paved the way for a "recreation" over-the-snow vehicle.

Today, there are over a hundred companies producing snowmobiles on a world wide basis.

"Skeeter" Bowman of McHenry was the first snowmobile dealer in Garrett County. At first he operated Bowman's Marina, with a big part of his work during the summer months when he did boat and motor repairs.



**Sometimes snowmobiles crossed county roads.**



"One day back in 1965," recalls 'Skeeter, "a salesman for the Fox Corporation stopped at the marina and told me about the snowmobiles his company was manufacturing. He talked about winter recreation and the part snowmobiles could play in it. I finally accepted their terms, and became the first dealer for the Fox Track snowmobile in Garrett County."

Surprisingly, Skeeter's first customer did not use his Fox Track for recreation. He was a rural mail carrier from Aurora, W. Va., and the snowmobile carried the mail when it was impossible to do it by car or truck. However, it wasn't too long before people found out about the recreational use of the snowmobiles, and other dealers for other machines opened up salesrooms in Garrett County.

#### FIRST EXPERIENCE IN OVERCOMING WINTER

Then came the day that your author had his first ride on a snowmobile.

One day, I was talking to a man from the Underwood area of the County who owned a snowmobile: "It looks like its going to be a nice night out tonight. Why not come out and take a ride on my snowmobile." So I did and immediately understood why the patient in the hospital crashed into the fence at the end of a field. Zipping through a starlit winter evening was one of the most exhilarating outdoor experiences I had had in a long time.

And so I concluded that riding a snowmobile, day or night, was a wonderful method for "Overcoming Winter"!



State Parks system opened snowmobile trails.

# Cecil Minard

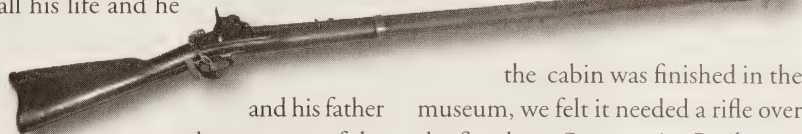
## 1922-2005

by Gretchen Shaffer

On November 12, 2005, the Garrett County Historical Society lost a special friend. Cecil Minard was a unique man. He lived in Deer Park all his life and he

inside that he made. Everyone wonders how he accomplished something that looks so impossible.

When



and his father were always aware of the importance of preserving history. They were always on the lookout for artifacts and often would keep something that others would overlook. One of the things they rescued was a beautiful dresser from the Deer Park Hotel. The dresser would have been destroyed because it was missing its mirror. This piece is now in the hallway of the museum.

A few of the many things Cecil brought into the museum are: a B&O Shovel, a B&O padlock, 2 B&O coach window locks, an original bench from the Deer Park Hotel grounds, an Oakland Pharmacy pill box, a Sturgiss Drugstore bottle, a timeclock from the Oakland High School, a wooden works clock, a mute-a-phone (used for privacy with the old wooden crank telephone), and the large urn from the front of the Oakland Hotel.

Cecil's father was a very creative man, and visitors always enjoy seeing the glass bottle with the wood carving

the cabin was finished in the museum, we felt it needed a rifle over the fireplace. Once again Cecil came through and we now have a wonderful Harper's Ferry rifle. He also gave a valuable collection of early pistols that are in a case in the military room.

Cecil was a man of great knowledge; he could fascinate you for hours with his stories of the past. He will be missed by everyone who knew him; however, his love of history and his collections will be enjoyed by generations for many years to come.





# *The Golden Age of Radio*

*by John A. Grant*

Suddenly there was a whole mix of sounds: the chatter of machine gun fire, the wail of a police siren, the shouting of men's voices and the sound of a policeman's whistle being blown; "Gang Busters" was on the air. This dramatic opening for the program "Gang Busters" was just one of the many choices for radio program openings that was developed during the 1930s, "The

Golden Age of Radio."

Of course most of the openings were not as dramatic as the one for "Gang Busters." For example, a weekday evening program called "Easy Aces" came on with an accordion playing "Manhattan Melody"; pipe organ music opened many weekday programs, sometimes with a voice accompanying the organ song. One very unusual opening was the sound of a door squeaking open for the program "Intersanctum."

In the 1930s, the radio programs during the week were divided into three separate formats: one set

for Monday to Friday, another one for Saturday, and a completely different one for Sunday.

A typical Mon. to Fri. broadcast day began with a mix of news, weather, and "disk-jockey" comments; it could last until 9 a.m.; the remainder of the morning was usually devoted

to programs for the housewives. These latter programs consisted of suggestions for cooking along with health, shopping and fashion tips. Sometimes a one hour variety program would be sandwiched between the housewives programs.

At Noon came another news and weather forecast program.

Weekday afternoon broadcasts brought another series of programs for women; many of these programs dealt with the problems of young mar-



1939 Zenith radio in the museum.

ried couples and generally lasted until about 4 p.m. when the children's programs started. Many of the afternoon programs were sponsored by soap manufacture and were nick-named "soap operas."

The themes for the children's programs included the ideas of striving and succeeding, for honesty and truth; but always children who had fun in doing whatever was planned for the program. Like other radio programs they had introductory music, with an announcer giving the name of the program. Heros of the programs were usually a boy and girl who were popular with their school mates and had several friends that shared their adventures.

An example of introductory music for these children's programs was the one for Jack Armstrong. The announcer would announce, "Jack Armstrong, the All American Boy!" followed immediately by a male quartet singing a "fight song" for Hudson High School. One theme of this program was getting the best of the school bully, who always seemed to be harassing Jack or one of his friends in some manner.

The settings for children's programs were both urban and rural. For example, the Jack Armstrong program setting was urban and the effect was that Hudson High was a large high school. By contrast, "Orphan Annie" lived on a farm temporarily with Mr. and Mrs. Silo; her companion in adventures was a boy named Joe Cornassel.

Sponsorship of the children's

programs was by either a breakfast food company or one for healthful mixes for milk. Sponsoring companies would periodically offer prizes to children who sent in box tops for a picture book or a secret decoding ring. All the prizes were something that the children could take to school to show to their friends.

News and weather came on once more at six p.m.

Evening programs were 15 minute broadcasts until eight or nine o'clock when the half-hour programs began; most of the half-hour programs came on the air only once a week and were replaced the next evening at the same time by a different program.

#### SATURDAY

Saturday broadcasts were structured a little differently. The day began once more with news and weather forecasts, but didn't last as long. There were programs for children on Saturday morning along with a few for housewives. News and weather forecasts came on at noon, but the afternoons were generally devoted to sports and broadcasts until later in the afternoon. Saturday evening broadcasts included some 15 minute programs but a lot of half-hour programs. One popular Saturday evening broadcast was the "National Barn Dance," with regular performers and guest performers presenting comedy and musical routines.

#### SUNDAY

By comparison with the weekday and Saturday broadcasts, Sunday broadcasts were somewhat unstructured until time for the Sunday eve-



ning programs. It is suggested that the reader look at "Sunday Evening and the Radio," printed in this issue of *The Glades Star* to learn about Sunday evening broadcasts.

#### DAWN TO DUSK RADIO STATIONS

As time progressed through the 1930s, and radios became more popular, the Federal Government changed the status of radio stations to allow small stations to be on the air for a limited time each day. Some of the

smaller stations purchased air time on the national networks during the mornings and afternoons, but most of their air time was devoted to local programs, featuring local personalities. Occasionally, the local stations would carry an ethnic program featuring the music and songs of a large foreign nationality which lived in the broadcast area. Of ten, during the broadcast, the announcements would be made in this same foreign language.

## *Sunday Evening and the Radio*

by John A. Grant

The mid-1930 years have been called the "golden age of radio," because of the radio programs format and the imagination created by writers, actors, along with the sound effects used. Of all the listening times during the week, Sunday evening had the most popular variety of programs, and drew the largest listening audience.

The Sunday evening radio programs were produced with an adult audience in mind; some were light and comic, while others were more serious, but all of them were interesting.

Sunday evening was a time when most of the family were home, especially during the winter months. It was then that most of the family would gather in the living room to listen to the radio. In those days the radios were big affairs, built like a

piece of furniture; hence their place in the living room.

During the 1930s, Sunday evening listening started with "Mister First-nighter" at 6:30 p.m., a program that presented a play. Most of the plays were of a serious nature, but some times there would be a play with a comic ending. One person who often appeared on this program was Don Ameche, who later became a movie star.

Then at 7:00 p.m. came the "Jello" program complete with an orchestra and advertisements for Jello dessert. Stars of this program were Jack Benny and Mary Livingston. It was a comedy show with a host of characters and all kinds of sound effects.

One example was Jack's old Maxwell car driven by Rochester, his chauffeur. There were background sounds of the car going down the

highway, while a dialog was carried on between Jack and Rochester.

Another example was Jack's underground vault, and the man who was down there to open and close the vault door. Jack was portrayed as a miser; a man on the show who did the voice part would ask Jack about the weather "up there." It gave the general impression that he had been down there for a long time, without ever being allowed to come up.

Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy came on the air at 8:00 p.m. with equally good characters and sound effects. Although Charlie was the tool of the ventriloquist Bergen, he was given the character of a rather sophisticated young man, with a touch of mischief about him. Voice and characterization came together on one very excellent, amusing program where Charlie met the seven dwarfs, from the Snow White movie.

On another network, in a parallel time slot with Charlie McCarthy, was the Mercury Theater of the Air. It received nationwide publicity one Sunday evening when Orson Wells

put on the play "War Of The Worlds." The sound effects and dialog were so realistic that many people in the United States thought that aliens had actually landed in New Jersey and invaded New York City. The network even got criticism from the U.S. Congress for presenting this program.

And so the listening progressed, with almost all of the programs becoming half-hour in length. The younger members of the family would toddle off to bed, while the adults sat listening to the evening programs. Finally, they too would shut off the radio, and the Sunday evening of listening to the programs was over.

Today, a person can buy some of the old radio programs on audio-tape, but they don't seem quite the same. Part of the lack of entertainment value of these tapes is that most families don't gather around the big radios that were once a part of the living room furniture. Without the big radio and family gathered around it, the charm of Sunday Evening and the Radio is gone.

## *Spring Fundraising Dinner*

The Spring Fund raising Dinner will be held April 20, 2006, 6 p.m., at the Pleasant Valley Community Center. Alice Eary, the Historical Society's secretary, will present a program titled "Garrett County One Room Schools." The cost is \$20/person. Call the museum 301-334-3226) for reservations and pay at the door or pay in advance at the museum.



# Charlie Ashby and The Fox

by Fred Thayer

Elect ed as a del-  
egate to the  
Maryland Legisla-  
ture from Garrett  
County in 1902,  
Charles A. (Char-  
lie) Ashby had cam-  
paign ed vigorously  
on a platform to  
rid the county of  
an ever growing fox  
population which  
was increasingly an-  
noy ing his farmer  
constituents. On  
arrival in Annapo-  
lis for the opening  
session of the Legis-  
lature, Charlie pro-  
posed to the Speaker  
of the House that a  
bill be drafted pro-  
vid ing for a boun-  
ty on foxes. The  
Speaker put Charlie  
off because of more  
press ing issues to be

considered at that  
session. Undeterred, Charlie pressed  
on, haranguing the Speaker and his  
fellow delegates with his plan for  
enactment of a fox bounty. Eventu-  
ally a bill which satisfied Charlie was  
drafted and referred to committee,  
where it died without ever being  
reported out.



Painting by Linn Grant.

At the next session of the Leg-  
islature in 1903, Charlie was back  
with his fox bounty bill, explaining  
to anyone who would listen that  
the proliferation of foxes in Garrett  
County was reaching crisis propor-  
tions and that he was beholden to his  
constituents to follow through on his  
campaign promise to provide relief by

enacting a government-paid bounty bill. Again feeling sidetracked by the Speaker and some of his colleagues, Charlie set out to gain favorable consideration of his bill by soliciting each and every delegate, in person, with the gravity of the Garrett County fox problem.

One of Charlie's colleagues was a delegate from Baltimore County who, when not involved with legislative issues and other less serious matters, was Master of Hounds for the Hunt Valley fox chase. Because hunting had seriously depleted the fox population in Baltimore County, the Master of Hounds became intrigued with Charlie's dilemma and asked, since there were so many foxes in Garrett County, could Charlie provide one or more for the Hunt Valley chase? Charlie assured the Master that getting a fox was certainly no problem and he would arrange it. The session ended and Charlie promptly forgot his promise.

As fall that year approached and no fox was delivered to the Master of Hounds, he called Charlie to inquire about Charlie's promise. Once again Charlie agreed to provide a fox. He searched diligently among his farmer constituents and acquaintances, but no fox was anywhere to be found.

Then Charlie remembered that a neighbor's boy had a pet fox which lived with the family and was quite tame. On visiting his neighbor that evening Charlie offered the boy \$5.00 (a lot of money in 1903!) for the fox. The boy was reluctant to part with his pet, but the family needed the money and so the bargain was struck. A cage was built and the fox was shipped, railway express, to the Master of Hounds. It arrived shortly before the season began.

On opening day, the Master and assembled hunters gathered for the hunt on their mounts amidst the baying, barking, jumping and jostling of the pack of several dozen hounds eager to begin the chase. Sounding his post horn, the Master turned the caged fox loose which took one look at the bedlam created by the hounds and horses, jumped onto the Master's horse's back and refused to run. No amount of effort could dislodge the fox, so the hunt was canceled and the fox rode off with the Master.

Later, the Master wired Charlie at his home in Deer Park to inquire: "What the hell kind of foxes do you have in Garrett County?" No more was heard in the legislative halls of Annapolis about a bill creating a bounty on foxes in Garrett County.

## *Museum Hours*

The museum will continue its winter hours  
(Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m. -3 p.m.) until May 1.



# *The Business and Professional Women's Club Women*

**On the March in Garrett County Since 1939**

*by Barbara Flinn and Mildred Wucik*



**Garrett County BPW member campaign for member Phyllis Trickett for BPW/MD second vice president at the 34th BPW State Convention in Wheaton, MD, in 1964. Pictured in front from left to right: Wilma Calhoun, Retha Whorton, Phyllis Trickett, Pat White and Mary McRobie. In back from left to right: Floss Shaffer, Eva Ream, Francis Matthews, Isabel Hamill, Elizabeth Mccomas, Vera Mussard, and Nellie Swartzentruber.**

*Editor's Note: This is another installment in the Glade Star's occasional series on the service clubs in Garrett County.*

**I**t was early spring of 1938 that a group of Garrett County women met to consider organizing a group of business and professional women to be affiliated with the State and National Federations of the Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. Seeking to be a catalyst for change in the county, this early group of

women, under the guidance of the Cumberland club, applied to the national organization, headquartered in Washington, D.C., for a charter and received it in August 1939. Charter members were: Catherine Baker, Kate Banatyne, Margaret Blocher, Dorothy Friedinger Dawson, Ann Dilgard, Alverta Dillon, Crystal Elliott, Rose Gisriel, Mary Harsch, Alice Hartely, Kathryn Helbig, Mary Louise Helbig, Palma Lucente, Margaret Lumpkin, Virginia Kalbauch McManis,

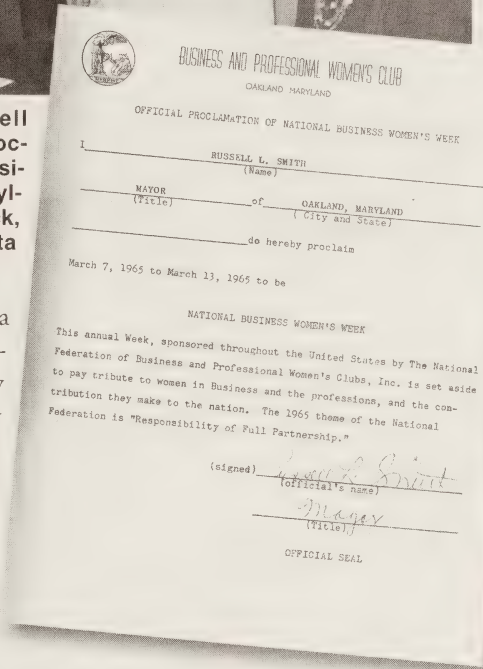


**Oakland Mayor, Russell Smith, signs official proclamation for National Business Women's week. Phyllis Trickett, Mildred Shrock, Ann Bell, Pat White, Rita Hardesty watch.**

Gladys Nordeck, Monica O'Leary, Helen Schlossnagle, Vernie Smouse, Mary Speicher, and Dorothy Stall, many of whom were educators in the county. In 1984 another BPW group was formed at Grantsville through the efforts of Ruth DiPaolo for women at the northern end of the county.

BPW's mission is to achieve equity—equal access, equal pay, and equal opportunity—for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. To further these ends BPW has engaged in a whole host of activities, including urging equal education and sports opportunities for girls in the county, voter registration, backing candidates

supportive of women's issues, and lobbying Congress. BPW has provided personal care and household items, and generous monetary contributions to the Garrett County Commission for Women for the Domestic Violence Shelter Fund. The club co-hosted a Woman's Fair at Garrett Community College, presenting a session on Sexual Harassment and Sexual







**BPW won first place for a non-commercial float, "Let's Talk Turkey," in the Autumn Glory Parade in 1968.**

Assault. Others at the Fair included a judge of the U.S. Court of Military Affairs, the General Counsel of the Maryland Commission on Human Relations and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resource Center, and the local sheriffs department and Social Services.

BPW co-sponsored a Women's Lecture Series, a year long potpourri of events planned to celebrate and highlight women and family issues. In 1998 BPW's session was "Living the Legacy—Women's Rights Movement—1898-1998; the 1999 ses-

sion, "Awakening Women: Surviving Domestic Violence," was designed to heighten understanding concerning issues of family violence.

As women's issues continue to be a priority for BPW, it has hosted additional programs and special events to bring to the forefront these issues and to seek remedies as well as to network with women in the county. The club hosted one such event in 2005 in conjunction with Equal Pay Day. "Women's Business Spotlight," held at Garrett College, invited women business owners to



**Marritt Feather, hospital administrator, observes as nurses Anne Conner and Mildred Dunbar present awards—ribbons and pins—and caps to Candy Strippers. BPW sponsored the Candy Striper Program at Garrett County Memorial Hospital for many years.**

display their products and to speak briefly about their businesses—how they got started and what marketing techniques work for them.

The Garrett County BWP has won many awards for completing state and national program criteria, such as Woman of the Year, Young Careerist, National Business Women's Week events, Legislation and Health committees, and has successfully hosted several state conventions and board meetings. Several members have been awarded state recognition, and a few have received national awards.

Along with its outstanding work benefiting local women, BPW has contributed much to the county as a whole and beyond. During World War II the club sent boxes of books



**A bicentennial monument dedicated to all working women was installed on the Court House north lawn in 1976.**





**BPW sponsored a 10K race at Broadford, July 4, 1983. Members working are Mildred Dunbar, Leona Beckman, Lucile Shorb, Wilma Calhoun and Linda Callis.**

and Red Cross kits to the troops overseas and rolled bandages. In 1943 when a tornado tore across the county, the club responded with clothing and supplies for stricken families. In 1946 BPW sent food and used clothing to a needy sister club in Czechoslovakia. In the late '40s the club raised funds to help in the construction of Garrett County Memorial Hospital and also made a generous monetary contribution to the Ruth Enlow Library. The club continues to support both

with woman hours—serving on the library board and the Candy Striper program—and money through annual contributions and lump-sum payments for special projects such as stress management classes and educational seminars for nurses at Garrett Memorial, landscaping, and book purchases. As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, BPW bought period furnishings for the Drane House in Accident, the oldest house in the county and published the





**Library presentation in 1989. Ruth Enlow librarian, Edith Brock, accepts \$1,000 check from BPW, presented by Wilma Calhoun as President Wucik watches during the 50th Anniversary celebration.**

booklet *Garrett County: A History of Women Helping Women*. To celebrate the nation's bicentennial, the club erected a bronze and stone monument dedicated to all working women of all

times on the lawn of the courthouse in Oakland. In the 1990s, when the Garrett County Historical Society began its Museum Fund, BPW made a generous initial contribution and has

followed with annual contributions ever since. BPW keeps its historical records at the museum.

BPW awards a variety of scholarships to Garrett College. These include basketball scholarships for women and a Mature Woman's Scholarship—age 30 and up. This latter scholarship has been given for 24 years, and in the year 2004-05



**Hosting and attending the 1990 BPW/MD State Convention at The Wisp in McHenry are (front) Helen Harman, Phyllis Buckel, Peggy Jamison, (back) Carol Canon, Goldie Shugars and Barbara Flinn.**



**Lona S. Livengood (left), mature woman scholarship winner, accepts a BPW \$600 scholarship award from Barbara Flinn, scholarship chairman in 1991.**

three such, for \$600 each, were given to area women who sought advancement in their work, to alleviate financial burdens, to achieve educational success, and to become financially independent.

Many other organizations in the county benefit from the largess of the women of BPW. These include the Scouts, Boys and Girls State, Red Cross, March of Dimes, the Dove Center, the rescue squads and fire departments, Susan B. Anthony Fund, Habitat for Humanity, Crippled Children's Fund, sending students to the United Nations and youth conferences, the Chinese Nurses' Fund, the annual Christmas Treat, Green Street School for handicapped children, the Christmas Tree Light Fund, Save Oakland Station, clubs and groups at Northern and Southern high schools,

senior citizen groups, and the Garrett Lakes Arts Festival.

Funds for BPW's projects come from several sources. Most notable, of course, is the food booth at the Garrett County Agriculture Fair. Opened in 1980, it also provides a welcome service for fairgoers. One BPW member, Barbara Flinn, holds the distinction of working the booth all 25 years of its existence. It is a large undertaking, and the club sometimes needs to involve other women's groups to help keep the booth open 13-14 hours a day throughout the fair. This cooperative arrangement helps the other groups to finance their projects.

Additional smaller community projects have raised money for BPW and served the community: the 10K Race and ice cream sale at the "July





**2005 BPW Officers: Donna McClintock; Fost and Joann Harsh, co-presidents; Peggy Jamison, vice president; Linda Fike, secretary; and Terri White, treasurer.**

4th Old Time Social" at Broadford Park and the food booths at Autumn Glory in Oakland, Winter Fest at the Wisp, the tennis tournament at Mountain Lake Park, and the Blue Barn Garrett County Playhouse. To raise money, BPW members have experienced nearly all that there is to do and sell—card parties, dances, plays, style shows, auctions, bingos, raffles, selling chances, selling delicious chocolate eggs and bunnies, jewelry, Tupperware, and even selling dresses at one point.

During BPW's 66 active years it has averaged a membership of 30-35 members. Although membership remains small but constant, it feels it has made large strides with activities and community projects. Two Garrett County members—Phyllis

Trickett and Mildred V. Wucik—were elected president of the Maryland Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. Through the years many of the local club's members have served in various state and national chairmanship positions and served on committees, and attended state and national conventions, traveling thousands of miles to meeting places around the state and nation and meeting with such notables as Maya Angelou, Suze Orman, Gloria Steinem, and Jayne Meadows.

The Garrett County BPW welcomes any person who is interested in women's issues, and the goals and objectives of the organization to become a member by contacting any member or officer for details.



# Feeding the Boys:

## Meals And Menus in Garrett County's Civilian Conservation Corps Camps

by *Kenneth W. Heger, Ph.D.*

*National Archives and Records Administration  
Washington, D.C.*

Almost everyone has heard the expression that an army marches on its stomach. That was certainly the thought when the administrators of Maryland's Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) turned their attention to feeding the enrollees. CCC work in Garrett County involved primarily manual labor. It focused on conservation of natural resources and centered in the county's state parks, where boys cleared brush, planted trees, constructed park buildings, and built trails. These activities took place all year long, so keeping the boys healthy during the heat of summer and the cold of winter was crucial.

Maryland's CCC headquarters

in Baltimore tackled the problem of proper nutrition for the enrollees head on. The official camp routine headquarters established specific times for meals: breakfast was at 6:30 a.m., dinner at noon, and supper at 5:00 p.m. Not wanting to leave the quality of food to the whims of individual camp commanders, CCC headquarters went to great lengths to provide de-

### ROUTINE

The camp routine varies in the different camps, depending on the season of the year and location of the camp. This schedule is followed by all enrollees unless excused by proper authority. Below is a normal schedule of activities in one camp -----

Reveille	6:00 a.m.
Physical Exercise	6:15
Breakfast	6:30
Clean Barracks and Police Grounds	7:30
Work Call	8:00
Dinner	12:00
Work Call	12:30 p.m.
Return to Camp	4:00
Retreat	4:45
Supper	5:00
Educational Program	6:00 - 9:00 (Monday Through Thursday) Friday 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. classes taught by technical service employees.

CAMP S-68-MD., BITTINGER, MARYLAND.

June 5, 1937.

## ONE WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
BREAKFAST		
Creamed Bananas Wheat Biscuits Fresh Milk Scrambled Eggs Butter Bread Coffee Syrup	Fresh Strawberries Hot Oat Meal Fresh Milk Creamed Beef on Toast Bread Butter Coffee	Fresh Oranges Buttered Grits Fresh Milk Bacon Omelet Potato Patties Bread Coffee
DINNER		
Vegetable Soup Brown Potatoes Creamed Cabbage Creamed Beets Butterscotch Pudding Bread Crackers Ice water	Chili-Con-Carne Mashed Potatoes Creamed Cauliflower Crackers Sliced Pickle Jam Bread Ice Water	Stewed Lima Beans Baked S. Potatoes Stewed Tomatoes Fried Egg Plant Apple sages Bread Butter Iced Cocoa
SUPPER		
Beef Stew Steamed Rice Fresh String Beans Cole Slaw Coconut Pie Bread Coffee	Steamed Franks Boiled Potatoes in Cream Creamed June Peas Baked Spinach Chocolate Cake Bread Punch	Meat Loaf & Gravy Creamed Potatoes Boiled Cabbage Combination Salad Chocolate Pie Bread Butter Lemonade

### Menu from Camp Meadow Mountain (S-68) located near Bittinger.

tailed guidance on meal preparation, the kinds of food to select, and the frequency with which camps should serve dishes. They even went so far as to provide camps with a thirty-day sample menu cycle. As an added precaution, camp doctors checked mess hall workers for infectious diseases weekly; they only examined the other enrollees monthly.

Regulations from headquarters stipulated that CCC camp commanders were to prepare meals around three basic principles: balance, variety and bulk. CCC officials realized that a balanced diet was the key to good health and charged camp commanders to base their nutrition decisions

on this concept, often spelling out specific kinds of food to feed the boys. For example, they instructed camps to give the boys a pint of milk at breakfast and at least two vegetables a day. They also believed in the importance of variety at the meal table. Menu items should be different at each meal and from day to day, urging camp commanders not to serve the same item within three days. Bulk referred to the need to provide the enrollees with enough calories to work an entire day. Guidelines

suggested that camps fill the boys up on inexpensive bulky foods, such as rice, potatoes, beans, roughage, and bread.

Each meal had several courses. Breakfast could have fruit, cereal, a main dish, potatoes or some other bulk food, and a beverage. Dinner might consist of a main dish of meat or fish, potatoes or some other bulk food, vegetables, a salad, bread, dessert and a beverage. Soup, a main dish of meat or fish, potatoes or some other bulk food, a salad, dessert and a beverage often made up supper. Sunday night's supper was to be cold, and might consist of a salad, sliced cheese, sliced ham, bread, ice cream,

TUESDAY: Jan. 14			\$	Camp Meal:	\$		\$			
Milk	200 (1/2 Pts)	6.00		Veal Loaf	53 Lb.	7.17	Beef	100 Lbs.	16.07	
Corn Beef Hash	8 Cans	5.36		Cheese	22 Lb.	4.25	Coffee	50 Lbs.	4.50	
Butter	3 Lbs.	1.17		Bread	34 Lb.	1.53	Potatoes	200 Lbs.	2.50	
Prunes	3 Cans	1.05		Jelly	9 Cans	1.17	Brussel Sprouts		2.50	
Bread	20 Lbs.	.90		Cervalet	6 Lb.	1.03	Eggs	10 Doz.	2.38	
Tomatoes	2 Cans	.44		Peanut Butter	2 Cans	.84	Butter	5 Lbs.	1.95	
Pineapple	2 Cans	.32		Milk	8 Cans	.40	Sweet Potatoes	1 Bu.	1.65	
Rollad Oats	3 Bxs.	.15		Pineapple	1 Can	.16	Bread	35 Lbs.	1.58	
Corn Meal	2 Bxs.	.10		Mustard	2 Jars	.16	Vanilla	1 Btl.	.94	
				Number served .....			Kidney Beans	12 Lbs.	.72	
				Field Meal:			Milk	12 Cans	.60	
							Pea Beans	12 Lb.	.48	
							Raisins	2 Bxs.	.10	
							Rice	6 Lbs.	.18	
TOTAL COST.....			\$ 15.64	TOTAL COST.....			\$ 16.71	TOTAL COST.....		\$ 56.15
WEDNESDAY: Jan. 15			\$	Camp Meal:	\$		\$			
Eggs	39 Doz.	9.25		Bologna	5 Lbs.	6.32	Beef	100 Lbs.	16.07	
Bacon	48 Lbs.	8.78		Cheese	23 Lbs.	4.44	Lima Beans	93 Lbs.	3.72	
Milk	200	6.10		Veal Loaf	21 Lbs.	2.84	Butter	6 Lbs.	2.34	
Bread	39 Lbs.	1.76		Bread	39 Lbs.	1.76	Bread	39 Lbs.	1.76	
Butter	3 Lbs.	1.17		Apple Butter	8 Cans	.48	Sweet Potatoes	1 Bu.	1.65	
Prunes	10 Lbs.	.50		Milk	8 Cans	.40	Apples	5 Cans	1.50	
Milk	3 Cans	.15		Pineapple	1 Can	.16	Potatoes	100 Lbs.	1.25	
				Jelly	1 Can	.13	S.M. Pickles	2	1.12	
				Mustard	1 Jar	.08	Milk	13 Cans	.65	
				Number served .....			Tomatoes	2 Cans	.44	
				Field Meal:			Peaches	1 Can	.42	
							Catsup	1 Can	.58	
							Cococanut	1 Box	.05	
							Sardines	1 Can	.03	
				Number served .....						
TOTAL COST.....			\$ 27.62	TOTAL COST.....			\$ 16.21	TOTAL COST.....		\$ 31.16



The story of Camp S-68's mess operation reflects the difficulty camps often had in maintaining quality food preparation. An inspection in April 1938 of Camp S-68, then located near Oakland, revealed a mess of mediocre quality. The camp commanding officer had just transferred to another post, and a new junior officer was in charge of the mess. To complicate matters, the CCC camp near Flintstone had borrowed S-68's best cook because of the terrible shape of the mess in the Flintstone camp. As a result the junior officer in charge of the mess had to oversee all enrollees working in the mess, learn how his new camp operated, and rely upon the camp's doctor to help him prepare most of the meals.

Fortunately for the enrollees, the situation improved rapidly. Although new to the camp, the junior officer possessed a sound knowledge of how to run a mess, and had graduated from the Meade School of Cooking. In addition, his hands-on activities in the mess only lasted a few weeks until the first cook returned to Oakland. Camp S-68's mess continued to improve so that by early 1942, it had a solid staff. The mess steward had a year's practical experience and had attended the school for mess stewards in New Cumberland. Camp S-68 had two first cooks. One had four months' experience and eight weeks of training at the cooks and bakers school in New Cumberland; the other had three months' experience and six weeks of training in New Cumberland. The camp inspector characterized both of

these men as promising and resourceful. Although the camp did not have a second cook, it had two student cooks, one of whom received his training as a K.P. and officer's orderly, and the other through course work at the cooks and bakers school in New Cumberland. The camp's baker had four month's experience and eight weeks of training at the New Cumberland school.

As the preceding narrative illustrates, commanders of Garrett County's CCC camps faced numerous challenges in feeding camp enrollees and the innovative ways they solved those problems.

For additional information on CCC camps you may wish to contact the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). NARA contains an extensive amount of documentation concerning CCC camps, including inspection reports for seven camps located in Garrett County. Filed under the name of the camp's last post office address these camps are: Deer Park (Camp S-51); Grantsville (Camp S-52); Oakland (Camp S-59); Swanton (Camp S-60); Swanton (Camp S-68); and Lonaconing (Camp S-70). There is also a file on a camp near Swanton filed with the other Maryland camps but labeled Piedmont, West Virginia (Camp S-65). The files usually contain information on the status of work projects, lists of senior officers, the health of the camp, and meals often including menus. There are rarely names of enrollees. You can contact NARA via the Internet at [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov).

# Deer Park Hotel Station

by Bob Boal

Very little has been written over the years about the B&O "Hotel Station," which existed on the hotel grounds (below the gas house) from possibly the early 1880s until 1944. A few surviving photos of the exterior of this station show an interesting Victorian style with much "gingerbread." The hotel station was only ½ mile from the Deer Park Village station, yet it received the "big trains" from spring to fall bearing hotel guests and their retinues. It is documented that in July 1891 the Robert Garrett family of Baltimore arrived at the Hotel Station with "five servants, 16 trunks, four horses, two carriages, a coachman, and a footman." Such was the elegance of the "glory days" of the Deer Park Hotel.

Carl Thrasher remembers his father, John R. Thrasher, purchasing the

Hotel Station and contents in 1944 for \$35. Mr. Thrasher had only a few days to tear it down and remove materials from the site. The glazed brick from the floor, which had been laid on end instead of flat, were hurriedly sold by Mr. Thrasher for \$4 per 1,000. Most of the brick was hauled from the site by Charley Brown with Edward Sollars helping to load. Carl's brothers, Lambert and Harrison Thrasher, helped with dismantling and removal of the building.

The museum has no photos of the interior of this "Hotel Station" and very few exterior photos—all of which are reproductions. If anyone has photos of significance regarding this station, the Historical Society would appreciate donation of such or the opportunity to make copies for its files.



# Mountain Lake Park Town Hall Through the Years

by Cynthia Witte

The town of Mountain Lake Park has seen many changes since its inception during the Victorian Era in 1881, and the same holds true of the historic building now known as the Mountain Lake Park Town Hall.

The building was originally owned by the Mountain Lake Park Women's Civic Club, which provided the club's meeting place, as well as containing a lending library and a bowling alley. The ladies called it the "Clubhouse." At that time, travel advertisements depicted the town as the summer resort known as "The Mountain Chautauqua". The dialogue boasted to potential visitors the availability of a religious experience, cultural programs, and places of recreation - a

lake, golf course, croquet, library, and bowling alley.

In 1908 the Mountain Lake Park Tennis Club was established on the grounds adjacent to the Clubhouse. Three courts were available for play, including playing rules and fees. In 1911 it was decided that players would have to sign up in advance, wear tennis shoes, and were not allowed to play on Sundays. One set of tennis cost 10 cents, three sets for 25 cents, 15 sets for \$1.00, and \$2.50 for a season pass.

In 1912 the Civic Club paid for a roller and a fence to keep horse-drawn wagons off the courts. Shortly thereafter, the clay courts were replaced with new clay and groomed to the



The Clubhouse about 1910 with the bowling alley still attached. A sign advertising land for development in Mountain Lake Park stands alongside.





**This 1923 photo shows some activity at the Mountain Lake Park Tennis Club.**

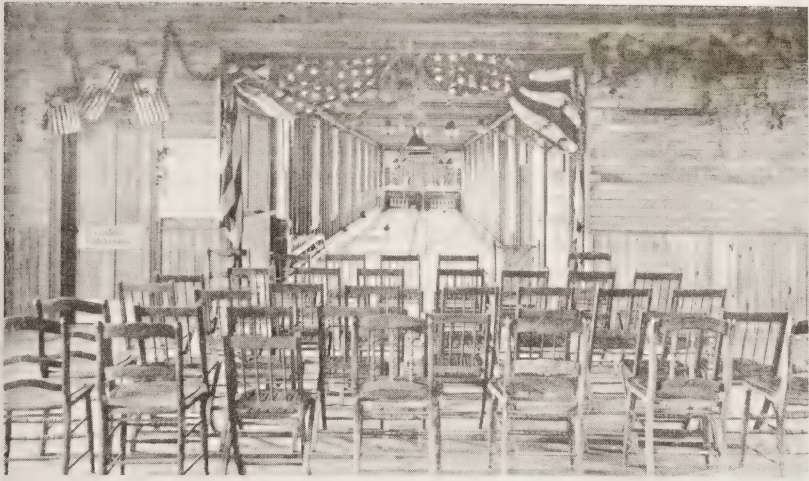
status of first class playing courts. It is interesting to note that postcards as early as 1910 depict the building as not having a porch on the east side of the building, nor upper tennis courts. However, a post card dated July 10, 1923, depicts the side porch and

upper tennis courts with bleachers. (Today, the side porch is enclosed and used as the mayor's office.)

The first tennis tournament was held in 1915. The following year, players were invited to come from Wheeling, Fairmont and Clarksburg.



**This view shows the tennis courts, the bowling alley, and the Clubhouse's side porch.**



**The interior of the bowling alley.**

During the “Roaring Twenties,” the Tennis Association was able to obtain sanctions from the United States Lawn Tennis Association, hence the beginning of the annual Western Maryland Championships. The 1920 men’s tournament boasted of special train schedules to the town and a young player named Jennings Randolph, who later became one of the area’s most famous senators. Women finally received equal billing in 1922 with a Ladies Singles and Doubles added to the tournament. By 1927 there were seventy-six men and twenty-one ladies who participated. Players came from Chicago, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Pennsylvania, and surrounding areas.

No tournaments were held during World War II (1942 and 1943). During that time, the Civic Club decided to turn their Clubhouse, library, and bowling alley over to town’s residents. In the fall of 1944, a small group of servicemen’s wives—summer resi-

dents—held a small tournament and slowly tennis again became popular.

Several years ago, restoration of the Town Hall came to fruition in an effort to maintain this historic building. This project, under the leadership of Leo Martin, currently the town’s mayor, stabilized the building’s foundation placed a mural depicting the original bowling alley.

In 2003, Mountain Lake Park’s mayor, Leo Martin, and the Town Council launched a restoration project of the Clubhouse (now known as the Town Hall). When several layers of wallboard and paneling were removed, the original wood walls were intact, including the bead board ceiling that was underneath the dropped ceiling. The original ceiling was repainted, and the walls were faux-painted a dark wood tone. Authentic oak trim finish now surrounds the mural mentioned above.

The lower level of the building still provides an area for the Mountain

Lake Park Tennis Club. In 2005, the facilities were updated with handicapped access, a shower, restroom and gathering room. The windows were trimmed with oak woodwork.

Fortunately after all these years, this historical building is used full time as the Mountain Lake Park

Town Hall. It is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for town business. Monthly town council meetings are held the first Thursday at 6:00 p.m., and Crime Watch meetings are held during the summer on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

# *Memorials and Donations*

*November 8, 2005 - January 27, 2006*

## **MEMORIALS**

Brig. General Bruce Babbitt  
by Mary Marsh Babbitt  
Mary Elliot  
by Ken and Leona Hardesty  
Jacqueline Tower Evans  
by Dr. George and Karon  
Grinnan  
by DeCorsey Bolden  
by Thomas and JoAnn Jones  
by Ruth Straka  
by William and Jeannine Vogl  
by Margaret M Brounlow  
by Dot and Jim Wagoner  
Richard A. Humberson, Jr.  
by Wayne and Judy Wilt  
Judge Lewis Jones and in honor of  
Mary Virginia Jones by Tom and  
Diane Jones

## **DONATIONS**

Paul and Elaine Hoyer  
Ethel Rae Snyder  
Youghioghnny Glades Chapter,  
Daughters of the American  
Revolution

Dr. and Mrs. James H. Feaster, Jr.  
Tom Powers  
Donald and Carol Moss  
Helen M. Ault  
Sally H. Durrant  
Kathryn Gonder  
Joseph DiSimone  
Carolyn Harriger  
Martha DeBerry, in honor of Bob  
and Leanna Boal  
Anne Bell Boltz  
Donna and Wayne Callis  
Martha Rinehart  
R. Hugh and Dolores Andrew  
Bill and Laurel Grant  
Laura Wilson  
Mr. and Mrs. Ascanio Boccuti,  
in honor of Troy and Frances  
Gnegy  
Kenneth W. Heger  
Robert and Joan Wargowsky  
Shirley Ambrogi  
Lawrence and Marilyn Reichert



# Gift of Original "Deer Park Hotel" Porcelain Signs

by Bob Boal



John R. and Grace Thrasher, 1961.

During construction of the replicated facade and porch of the Deer Park Hotel on the museum grounds, one of the original B&O porcelain signs from the hotel railroad station was generously donated to the Historical Society by Carl and Helena Thrasher in memory of Carl's parents, John R. and Grace G. (Marley) Thrasher. The sign is in nearly "mint" condition and is presently incorporated in the hotel façade at Daile's Park.

A similar sign (complete with bullet holes) is located in the "Hotel Room" of the museum and was



Carl and Helena Thrasher.

donated to the society several years ago by Mary Naylor Bennett. Mary purchased this sign at the Harrison Thrasher Auction in Deer Park.

# Celtic Festival Celebrates A Rich History

by Jo Donaldson

For more than 18 years, the Garrett College Pipes and Drums has been entertaining Garrett County residents and guests at the McHenry Highland Festival. Now in its 19th year, the festival continues to grow. The festival offers Celtic music and dancing, Highland athletic games, sheepdog demonstrations, clans, craft exhibitors, livestock shows, military encampments, a Celtic dog show and a variety of other activities.

Several years ago, the festival became a weekend event, with activities planned for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Last year the Garrett County Commissioners recognized the first weekend in June as Celtic Week.

A golf tournament and concert at Wisp begin the weekend. The concert features world-renowned Scottish fiddler Bonnie Rideout, who entertains at the Kennedy Center and concert halls throughout the world, as well as with the rollicking Celtic band Coyote Run. More entertainers will perform Saturday at the Garrett County Fairgrounds, including Canadian



Celtic rock band Hunting McLeod. Sunday features the Kirkin' o' the Tartans at St. John's Episcopal Church in Deer Park and a "Haste Ye Back" Brunch at Will o' the Wisp.

The Garrett County Promotion Council and the band started the festival in 1987 to offer entertainment during a slow

season of the year. The Pipes and Drums has remained the host band and is usually joined by five or six other bagpipe bands for the festival.

The Garrett College Pipes and Drums band was formed in 1979 by Judge Fred Thayer and Charles (Chip) Evans. Twelve men gathered for an evening session of classes at the Garrett Community College Center Street extension in Oakland in 1979. John Grant, Paul Browning and Roselle Gow participated in those early classes and later played with the band for years.

Originally called the Garrett Highlanders, since some members also played for the Ali Ghan Shrine Highlanders, the band changed its name in 1989 when Garrett Com-

munity College took over sponsorship and began offering bagpiping as a credit course. The name was changed again a few years ago when the college changed its name to Garrett College.

Pipe Sergeant Paul Browning, then 13, and his 11 year old sister Barbara, were the first family team in the band. Later his father, Jerry Browning, joined the band as a bass drummer. Through the years many other family groups marched with the band, such as John, Catherine and Jo Donaldson and Jim and Mary-Alice Riesman.

On the band's 25th anniversary a new band kilt was ordered for band members. Made in Scotland the kilts are the Colquhoun tartan, in honor of Thayer's clan. The pipe band marches in parades, performs at area nursing homes and business, educational and charitable events. The season usually starts with the Bridgeport, WV, Scottish Festival and Celtic Gathering and the Garrett College graduation ceremony. It usually includes the Autumn Glory Festival, the Berlin Whiskey Rebellion and a concert at the Goodwill Mennonite Home in Grantsville. The band, now under the leadership of Pipe Major Jerry McGee, Drum Major Kenny Noland

and Clan Chief Chris McCann, is currently preparing for its upcoming season of appearances.

After the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce merged with the Promotion Council, it took over the festival responsibilities for the next two years with Diane Wolfe as coordinator. When the Chamber decided it could not longer coordinate the event, it was adopted by the Deep Creek Lake Lions Club. Two years later an independent board of directors was formed to manage the festival.

The current festival board of directors includes Jerry McGee, Board Chairman and Festival Coordinator; Jeff Nelson, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman and Treasurer; Gary Lambert, Secretary; Jo Donaldson; Abe Folmsbee, Student Apprentice to the Board; Rich Ford; Ellen Fritz; Jerry Humberson; Odette Lueck; Helga Williamson; John MacGowan; Rosemary Versteegen; and chair emeritus Fred Thayer.

An even bigger and more elaborate event is being planned for 2007 to celebrate the festival's 20th anniversary.

Information about the festival and ticket purchase can be accessed on the festival's website, [www.highlandfest.info](http://www.highlandfest.info).

## *Glades Star Bound Volumes*

Enjoy past issues of the *Glades Star* beginning with the first issue—March 25, 1941. The Museum has Vols. 1 through 9 available for sale. Volumes include all issues until December 2002. The price for each is \$42.00 + tax.





## *Wish List*

Cobbler's Bench

Old wooden wheelbarrow (good condition)

Early Christmas tree ornaments

Early holiday post cards

Early Garrett County photo postcards

Early child's sled—for wall mounting

## *Do You Know?*

Do you know that at least five other businesses once dominated the corner at Second and Liberty Streets in Oakland.

Once Hinebaugh's Restaurant and the Four-story Startzer Opera House dominated the northeast corner with the D.N. Dixon Store on the southeast Corner. Millers Market was on the southwest corner for nearly a century. The First United Bank and Trust's George K. Littman Building now replaces the renovated 1960s H.P. Store building. Littman spent nearly 60 years of his life with the banking firm, beginning as a book keeper in 1924 and retiring as Chairman of the Board in 1980.

# THE Glades Star

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OAKLAND, MARYLAND

JUNE 2006

## *Garrett College Celebrates 35 Years*

*by Jo Donaldson*



*See Story Page 47*

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# Garrett College Celebrates 35 Years

by Jo Donaldson

Garrett College will begin its 35th year of operation this September with a new



president, Dr. Paul R. Dauphinais. The current president, Dr. Steve Herman, will retire in June after 20 years of devoted service. Under his tutelage the college has become a strong and fiscally responsible institution with a very good academic reputation, one that goes far beyond Garrett County borders. During the last 20 years, the college has gone from 430 credit students to over 600, and the Continuing Education Division now has more than 4,000 students. "We've renovated almost the entire campus and added new buildings," said Dr. Herman. They include the Information Enterprise Center, the Residence Hall and the Gymnasium renovation.

Construction has begun on a new Learning Resource Center, and planning for a Community Athletic and Recreation Center on Marsh Mountain is continuing.

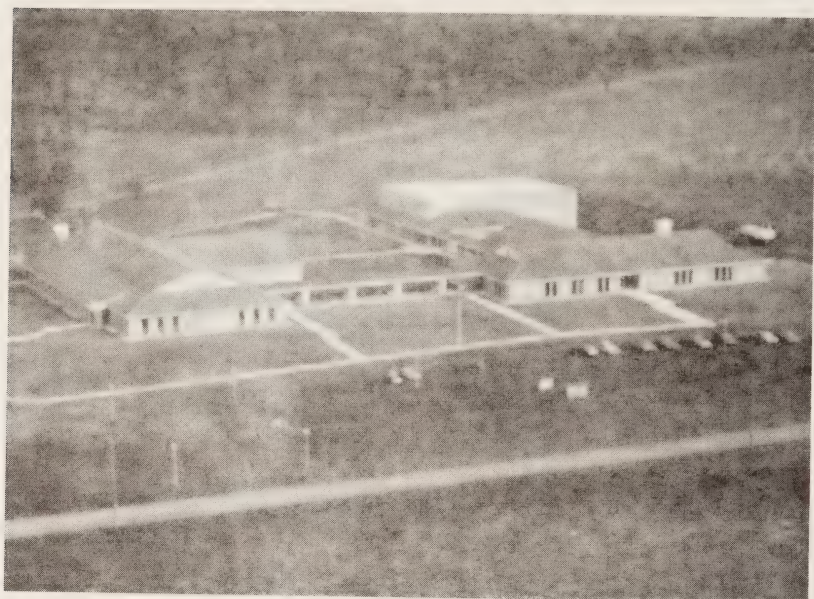
For years many county residents had dreamed of a place where their

young people could begin their college education. The dream be-

came reality in September 1971 when Garrett College opened its doors. In October 1969 Mrs. Diane Thayer, President of the



**Dr. Luther G. Shaw, first GCC President. Photo from *The Republican*, October 7, 1971.**



**Aerial view of newly completed Garrett Community College. Photo from *The Republican*, October 7, 1971.**

Board of Trustees for the Community College, and William A. Shirer, whose company won the bid to build the three-unit complex that was to be known as the Garrett Community College affixed their signatures to the \$1,194,000 contract. Also present were Clinton Englander, Robert O. Diehl, Ralph Beachy, and Dr. Raymond McCullough, County Superintendent of Schools. The cost of construction was to be borne jointly by the county and the state. The state also provided 45 percent of the operational cost, the county 30 percent, and student tuition the remaining 25 percent. Tuition per semester was set at \$150 for county residents, \$300 for Maryland residents, and \$600 for out-of-state residents. Part-time costs

were \$12 per credit hour plus fees of approximately \$5 per semester for residents, \$20 for Marylanders, and \$40 for out-of-state.

The State Board of Education named Dr. Luther G. Shaw president of the new college on August 13, 1970, after interviewing 14 applicants. Dr. Shaw was previously president of Atlantic Community College near Atlantic City, New Jersey. He worked in an interim office on Green Street in Oakland until the college buildings were completed. The buildings under construction on the 60-acre campus were designed to blend into the terrain near Deep Creek Lake. The Instruction building included science and business laboratories, a library, faculty offices,

and featured a large, open space learning center designed for flexibility and adaptability. The Commons building provided for administrative and counseling offices, a student lounge, a food service area, and a theater auditorium. The Gymnasium area included offices and locker rooms. The buildings were linked by covered walkways.

On Thursday, September 16, 1971, GCC began its first courses with approximately 200 students enrolled and the distinction of being the first community college in Maryland to hold its first classes on its own campus.

"The big advantage of the Community College is its availability, both in location and cost, making an opportunity for continuing their education to many, who could not otherwise afford it," read an article in *The Republican*.

The September 1971 issue of *The Glades Star* read, "GCC has become a solid reality on Mosser Road at McHenry within sight of the cove where once the wife of Meshach Browning met two wolves when she went to the spring for a gourd full of water." *The Republican* ran a special section, "College Opportunity in Garrett County Becomes a Reality," in October 1971 with a large photo of the new college. The formal dedication was Saturday, October 9, 1971. Some of the notables attending the dedication were County Commissioner Wayne Hamilton, U.S. Sen. J. Glenn Beall, Lt. Gov. Blair Lee, Rep.

Goodloe E. Byron, State Sen. William A. Silson, Delegate DeCorsey Bolden, Diane Thayer, and Dr. Luther Shaw.

Everything seemed to move quickly after classes started. A band was formed, concerts were held, adult education classes were held at the campus and at various locations around the county, and an art exhibit was held. A basketball squad—The Lakers—was formed in January 1972 with Dennis Fearnow as coach. Local organizations began donating money to the library and for scholarships even before the doors opened. Musical presentation, art shows, and speakers provided some global exposure and education in the early years. There are now 25 international students on campus. Willard Ann Elliott, Oakland, was the first to receive a diploma from GCC. Diane Thayer, President of the Board, presented it to her, and Dr. William Robinson sang "We've Only Just Begun."

The college seal was designed by Aza Stanton, with the green representing the county's verdant setting, white—the snow of winter, and blue—the azure skies and Deep Creek Lake. Three mountain peaks symbolize the three chief objects of the college: service to the community, development of self, and preparation.

Difficulties anticipated by the college staff and board often were joined by the unexpected such as the February 1974 independent truckers strike that halted most truck traffic.



This caused critical shortages of food, heating oil, and gasoline, and closed county schools and GCC for a period of time.

Garrett College has changed often during the years, adding courses and later certificates in computer studies, including distance learning and on-line courses in its offerings. GCC took the lead in rural telecommunications in 1996 with a comprehensive telecommunications system. The Garrett Rural Information Cooperative was formed to provide low-cost information access. Don Storck, GCC's Dean of Information Technology had suggested such a cooperative approach of shared community use as a way for a small community with limited resources to afford a comprehensive telecom system. Garrett College was the first rural community in the nation to introduce such a system.

"It is time that someone with fresh eyes come to lead the college into its next chapter," Dr. Herman said. "The new president has a lot to build on and can take the college to a whole new level." Dr. Paul R. Dauphinais of Palmer, Alaska, has accepted the challenge. He was most recently College Director at Matanuska-Susitna College, a campus of the University of Alaska, Anchorage, that enrolls almost 2,000 students. His professional experience spans public and private two- and four-year institutions. Dr. Dauphinais's career has been primarily at rural institutions where the tie between the college and

the community has been important and close. He has had several years' experience as a college CEO at both traditional liberal arts transfer colleges and at technical colleges.

Dr. Dauphinais said, "My challenge and immediate requirement is to learn how and why things are done here, come to understand the organization of the college and the community, and enable everyone to understand me." He also said, "In doing so I hope to minimize the trauma of change, get to know the people and community of the college and county, and finally, to be able to carry on with the incredible accomplishments of President Herman and bring to fruition the capital projects that will mean so much to the college and community."

The dream that became reality 35 years ago is still alive and the future looks bright for Garrett College. Various activities are being planned to celebrate the anniversary. A special book that will include more details about the college's history is being written by Jo Donaldson and will be presented at some of the autumn events. Personal memories from former college students and staff will be welcomed and can be sent to [jdonaldson@garrettcollege.edu](mailto:jdonaldson@garrettcollege.edu). She also would welcome access to old photographs.

The website [www.garrettcollege.edu](http://www.garrettcollege.edu) provides more information about the college, its offerings, and coming activities.

*The Garrett County Historical Society Salutes*

# *100 Years of Forestry and State Parks in Maryland*

*by Francis "Champ" Zumbrun, Manager,  
Green Ridge State Forest, with  
assistance from Wm. Offutt Johnson and Robert F. Bailey*

## INTRODUCTION

Two thousand six (2006) and 2007 mark the 100th anniversary of Maryland's efforts to conserve productive forests and to also preserve the special natural and historical places we know as State Parks.

The Garrett County Historical Society's salute is of local interest since from 1906 both of these state-wide programs had their roots solidly planted in Garrett County. Through a series of two articles the Society shows that the preceding statement is more than just a play on words. It really started here in Garrett County.

Our salute to Maryland's forestry and state park efforts will be covered in two issues of the *Glades Star*. This

first one deals with the passing of the forestry and parks legislation and the start of the scientific practice of forestry and the creation of state forests. The second article in a later issue will cover the beginnings and advancement of the successful state park efforts.

A listing of all who have served in Garrett County, in a full-time capacity, in forestry or state park work will be outlined at the end of the second article to recognize those who administered these conservation efforts. It is through their good and dedicated

work that the end result has been so successful and that we as Marylanders enjoy healthy, productive forests and that we have state parks for public recreation and historic preservation.



**MARYLAND AMONG FIRST STATES TO INITIATE  
CONSERVING FORESTS**

*"My brother and I agreed to donate a state forest if Maryland would take care of it."*—Robert Garrett, speaking at the 50th Maryland Forest Service anniversary dinner in 1956.

Allegany and Garrett counties are blessed with abundant private forests, state parks, and state forests. The following is a list of the State conservation lands in each county with the

number of acres in each.

Allegany County has a total of 49,582 acres of state forests, parks and conservation lands. With 78 percent forest cover, Allegany County has the highest percent of forest cover of any Maryland county.

Garrett County has a total of 83,385 acres state forest, parks and conservation lands.

All of these public conservation lands have been acquired within the

**Allegany County**

**Acres**

Green Ridge State Forest.....	46,000
Rocky Gap State Park.....	3,101
Dans Mountain State Park .....	481

**Garrett County**

**Acres**

Bear Pen Headwaters Heritage Conservation Fund Site .....	324
Big Run State Park.....	300
Casselman Bridge State Park.....	4
Deep Creek Lake Natural Resource Management Area .....	3,900
(Lake with 65 miles of shoreline)	
Deep Creek Lake State Park .....	6,809
Elder Hill Fire Tower Site .....	1
Garrett State Forest.....	6,833
Herrington Manor State Park.....	365
Jennings Randolph Lake Boat Ramp .....	7
Lower Deep Creek Heritage Conservation Site .....	108
New Germany State Park.....	455
Potomac State Forest .....	10,424
Roth Rock Fire Tower Site .....	1
Savage River State Forest.....	53,781
Swallow Falls State Park.....	257
Youghiogheny River Natural Environment Area .....	3,806



last century. Prior to 1907, there were no public conservation lands or state parks of any kind.

Can you imagine Maryland without a state forest or state park? Well, a little more than 100 years ago, in 1905, there were no state forests or state parks; and the forested landscape of mostly private land was devastated. By the turn of the 20th century, Maryland's forest resources had been drastically reduced by farmers, miners and most of all, by cut-and-run timber men, who left the state's once vast forest land bare of trees. It was an ugly environmental disaster. The treeless land failed to absorb water, resulting in frequent flooding of many towns and cities. Forest fires destroyed young forests struggling to get a good start. Maryland was still over-harvesting 30 percent more timber in 1907 than it was growing. Maryland was a state in crisis!

Forest conservation in Maryland began in 1906, when two brothers, John and Robert Garrett, made a generous donation of 1,917 acres of their forest land in Garrett County (named for the family) to the state of Maryland. The Garrett brothers were heirs to a Baltimore banking and brokerage fortune, as well as the Baltimore and Ohio railroad fortune that was amassed by their grandfather, John



**Robert Garrett, Baltimore philanthropist who along with his brother, John, donated 1,917 acres in Garrett County for Maryland's first state forest. Photo 1945.**

W. Garrett. Robert Garrett competed in the first modern Olympics in 1896 and won the gold and silver medals in the discus throw. *Sports Illustrated* recognizes Garrett as one of the 50 greatest Maryland sports figures of all time, not far behind Babe Ruth, Lefty Grove and Cal Ripken.

The property became Garrett State Forest, Maryland's first state forest. This donation, helped to encourage the 1906 Forestry Conservation Act, passed by the legislature on March 31 and signed by Governor Edwin Warfield on April 5, 1906. This date marks the official begin-

ning of the state's forestry and parks conservation movement. Maryland was one of the first states in the nation to adopt a forward-looking forest conservation movement and the third state to hire a state forester.

There were zero acres of state public land in Maryland before the Garrett brothers' donation in 1906. Today as we celebrate the centennial of the Maryland Forests and Parks, there are nearly 276,309 acres of state public forest and park land, making up almost 5 percent of the state's total land base. Both state and private land forest cover increased throughout Maryland from a little more than 30 percent 100 years ago to 41 percent today. An incredible achievement, especially considering that during the same 100-year period, the population of Maryland tripled in size from about 1.3 million to about 5.6 million. The forest conservation leaders of the past proved that it is possible to have economic growth while increasing the forest resource base and improving the quality of life.

With their donation, the Garrett brothers imposed several conditions. Foremost, the state of Maryland was to make adequate conditions for the care of its forests. With the passing of the 1906 Forestry Conservation Act, the Garrett brothers' conditions became law.

Maryland was required to establish a State Board of Forestry for the purpose of overseeing management of forest land both public and private. The law states that any additional gifts of forest land should be administered



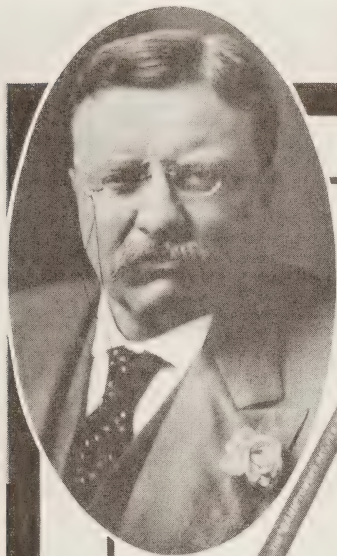
**Senator W. McCulloh Brown from Garrett County sponsored the 1906 legislation that created the Maryland State Board of Forestry and State Parks Protection Programs. He also worked for the preservation of Ft. Frederick as a State Park.**

"as State Forest Reserves . . . to be used . . . to demonstrate the practical utility of timber culture and as a breeding place for game."

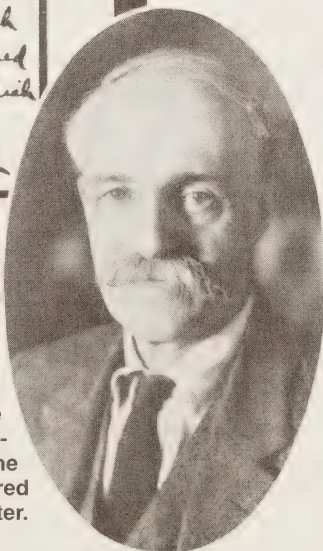
The 1906 Forestry Conservation Act addressed a variety of additional environmental concerns of that time, including forest fires, over-cutting of timber, and livestock grazing in woodlots, factors that had a negative impact on forest regeneration.

The law also provided guidelines for purchasing additional state public lands. For example, the state could not spend more than \$5 per acre when purchasing additional public lands. The 1906 Forestry Conservation Act mentions "state parks" along with

President Theodore Roosevelt set aside more National Forest, National Parks, and National Wild Life Areas than any other U.S. President.



*This is the pen with which  
President Roosevelt signed  
the act of Feb. 1, 1905, which  
created the Forest Service  
Gifford Pinchot*



Gifford Pinchot, Chief Forester in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He framed most of the ideas that became President Theodore Roosevelt's conservation program. Pinchot recommended the State of Maryland should hire Fred W. Besley as the first state forester.



"forest reserves"—the two coincided right from the very beginning. The fact that Patapsco near Baltimore was operational as a public park as early as 1912, and soon after to become Maryland's first official state park shows just how progressive the law was for its time.

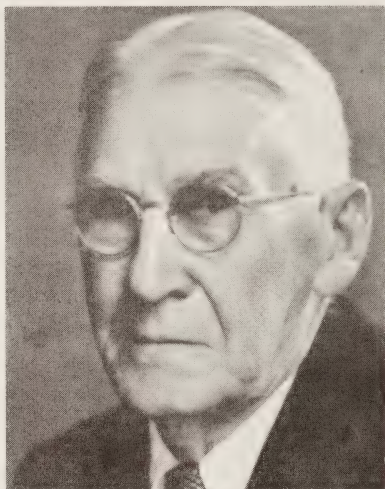
#### FIRST STATE FORESTER PERFECT FIT FOR JOB

*"Pinchot was so boiling over with enthusiasm about forestry that then and there I adopted forestry as my career."*—Fred W. Besley, Maryland's first state forester, commenting on meeting U.S. Forester Gifford Pinchot for the first time in 1898.

Maryland is the fifth most densely populated state in the country, yet in large part has maintained its magnificent forested landscapes. This good fortune can be attributed to two factors, the 1906 Maryland Forestry Conservation Act and the great conservation leaders who have served Maryland in both the public and private sector over the past century.

#### THIS BILL HAD ITS ROOTS IN GARRETT COUNTY.

By 1905, local newspapers such as *The Republican* in Oakland began to articulate the need to protect the county's environment—particularly its timber, game and fish reserves. In response, Garrett County voters that year sent William McCulloh Brown to the State Senate with a bill providing for the creation of a State Board of Forestry. According to the *Baltimore Sun*, "Mr. Brown lives in Garrett County, where the lumber interests are large and where the fountain head of many streams are situated. He finds that the forests of his county are the



**Fred W. Besley, Maryland's first State Forester.**

finest and most extensive in the State, [and] are rapidly disappearing before the sawmill." Expressing confidence in his legislation, the *Sun* reported that Brown "is satisfied that the State should own large forest preserves which [would] not only be a source of profit to the State in the future, but would also preserve game birds and animals from extermination."

Introduced in February 1906, Brown's forestry bill was passed virtually unaltered on March 31. The forestry bill stipulated the creation of a Board of Forestry that consisted of the Governor, Comptroller, President of Johns Hopkins University, President of Maryland Agricultural College, State Geologist, "one citizen of the State known to be interested in the advancement of forestry," and "one practical lumberman engaged in the manufacture of lumber within this State." Though the legislation gave



**Loblolly pine seed cones at the College Park State Forest Tree Nursery, 1920.**

the Board of Forestry the legal power to purchase private property for state forest reserves and to improve state parks, the bill was nevertheless conservative. To ameliorate elements who may have harbored concerns about the State purchasing land, the bill empowered the state to *indirectly* conserve, manage and control Maryland's timber supply. Therefore, during its early years, all State Forest Reserves would consist of philanthropic donations—and beyond a 1,917 acre tract in Garrett County and a 43 acre tract in Baltimore County, few donations were forthcoming. With a miniscule \$3,500 annual appropriation, the Forestry Board lacked the financial muscle necessary to purchase land. In fact, its appropriation was barely large enough to hire one professional

forester and a small supporting staff. Accordingly, the Board of Forestry's two primary functions involved fighting fires and acting as a scientific forestry information clearing house until 1912. The law, in essence, declared war on the age of forest exploitation, a period that lasted generally between the years 1865 and 1906.

During the age of forest exploitation, the timber volume harvested greatly exceeded growth. The seemingly inexhaustible timber resources of the nation were greatly diminished. The damage was so great that the general public became concerned that America was running out of wood and wood products.

Only 20 percent of the forest cover remained east of the Mississippi River. In Maryland, only 30 percent





**Watering seed beds after sowing and burlapping, State Forest Tree Nursery, 1926.**

of the original pre-Colonial forest cover remained. Much of that forest land was covered with only sprout and immature stands of trees. Conservationists described the Maryland forests of the early 1900s as devastated; the landscape was cut over and fire-damaged, consisting primarily of seedling and sapling-sized trees as far as the eye could see.

The 1906 Forestry Conservation Act was so progressive and pioneering that it put Maryland at the forefront of the national forestry conservation movement. Maryland was the third

state in the nation to enact a state forestry conservation program. The first one was Pennsylvania, in 1895, and Wisconsin was second in 1903. The law created the State Board of Forestry and made it clear that the applied science of forestry would be the tool to heal Maryland's devastated landscape.

One of the Board's first tasks was to appoint a state forester to carry out the mandates of the conservation law. Significantly, the act required the state forester to be a "trained forester" with a "practical knowledge of forestry,"





**One-year Loblolly pine seedlings, State Forest Tree Nursery, 1929.**

and not a political appointee. The person selected for the job was Fred W. Besley (1872-1960), who served as Maryland state forester from 1906 to 1942.

It would have been hard to find someone more qualified than Besley. After teaching for eight years in a one-room Virginia schoolhouse, a chance meeting in 1898 with U.S. Forester Gifford Pinchot inspired Besley to pursue a career in professional forestry.

In 1900, Gifford Pinchot, the

father of American forestry and adviser to President Theodore Roosevelt, handpicked Besley for federal employment with the U.S. Forest Service. Besley trained under Pinchot's direction for six years, working in nine different states. He learned all aspects of forest resource management as a student assistant, field forester and as a student attending the Yale School of Forestry where he graduated at the age of 32 with honors in 1904.

Pinchot also had a hand in selecting Besley as Maryland's first state



**Silas Sines (second from right), Superintendent, State Forest Tree Nursery, with mule team and tree digger.**

forester. Besley believed Pinchot offered him the job because of his superior academic work at both Maryland State Agricultural College and Yale Forestry School, as well as for his many accomplishments as a field forester. An upcoming article will show that Besley is truly one of Maryland's early great forestry conservation pioneers as he implemented the beginning of forest recreation areas that led the way to establishing Maryland's system of State Parks.

**FIRST STATE FORESTER BRINGS TREE NURSERY  
SCIENCE TO MARYLAND AND PLACES GARRETT  
COUNTY MAN AS STATE TREE NURSERY  
SUPERINTENDENT.**

*"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago—the second best time is today."*—Anonymous

In 1914, the Maryland legislature

passed the Roadside Tree Law. It was one of the first laws in the country that gave a state forestry department authority to plant, care for and protect trees in the public right of way. It also enabled the State Board of Forestry to establish a state tree nursery, its primary purpose to grow trees for roadside planting.

That same year, Maryland's first state forest tree nursery was established at College Park. The University of Maryland, originally the Maryland Agricultural College, donated a tract of land at Paint Branch at the intersection of U.S. Route 1 and Lakeland Road.

The nursery later evolved and expanded to grow seedlings for conservation purposes, including wildlife



habitat, watershed and soil protection, and forest products. The state tree nursery was important to the ecological restoration of Maryland's forested landscape that was devastated from abusive logging and agricultural practices that occurred in the late 19th century.

Fred W. Besley, student of Gifford Pinchot, father of American forestry, brought forest tree nursery science to Maryland as its first state forester. Besley gained this knowledge from working in 1904 as a superintendent at the U.S. Forest Service Tree Nursery at Halsey, Nebraska, the first federal tree nursery established in the country. Kirk Rodgers, Besley's grandson, said that one of the earliest and most vigorous efforts his grandfather undertook as a state forester was to establish a state tree nursery. "He was particularly interested in forest regeneration. He was ashamed with the way Maryland's roadsides looked. He made this into a crusade."

During his term as state forester between the years 1906-1942, Besley established three state forest tree nurseries, all on the property or near the University of Maryland at College Park. With each passing year, productivity increased at the tree nursery from thousands of trees produced annually to millions of trees.



**Silas Sines, State Forest Nursery Superintendent, was from Garrett County.**

Around 1944, the state expanded operations to the Beltsville Experimental Tree Nursery. In 1950, the tree nursery at College Park closed and moved to Harmons, in Anne Arundel County. A new Tree Improvement Program propagated superior loblolly and Eastern white pine. Harmons was the first state tree nursery to sit on land owned and deeded to the Maryland Forest Service. Later it was renamed Buckingham Tree Nursery, after Henry C. Buckingham, the third state forester, who had a strong interest and background in tree nursery science.

In 1996, due to the construction of Route 100, the nursery relocated to its present site near Preston in Caroline County on the Eastern Shore. It



was renamed John S. Ayton Forest Tree Nursery, for the person most instrumental in its establishment.

Since 1914, only a handful of individuals has served as head nurseryman at the state tree nursery, among them Silas Sines, a native of Garrett County. From 1929 to 1974 (45 years), Sines oversaw and guided the growth and operations of the state forest tree nursery.

The self-sufficient work habits of Sines have become legend. Sines pioneered methods for growing and replanting large numbers of healthy trees economically. The employees he supervised respected and looked up to him. He was not above working in the field right along with his staff.

Sines was sought out by professional nurserymen and foresters for his insight and knowledge about growing and transplanting trees. They were amazed at Sines's creative innovations, made even the more remarkable as Sines had very little formal education. They traveled long distances to study Sines's practices and to photograph tools and equipment he designed, such as the root-pruner, tree planter and pine cone seed extractor.

Because of Sines, the Maryland State Forest Tree Nursery gained a reputation among nurserymen in the eastern United States for growing the best tree seedlings at the cheapest price. Buckingham once told a group of nurserymen that of all the trees grown at tree nurseries in the eastern United States, Maryland's trees stood out like a "fly in buttermilk."

Perhaps this quote from Larry Maxim, Savage River state forester, best captures the significance of Maryland's State Forest Tree Nursery. "The State Forest Tree Nursery symbolizes man's hope for the future. It is a testimony to man's love for the forest and his desire to establish trees where there are none. People who work at a nursery are doing God's work. Tree nurseries are the epitome of what forestry is all about "reestablishing and maintaining the health of the forest."

This two part salute to 100 years of forestry and state parks in Maryland will continue in the September 2006 issue of the *Glades Star* as we review the evolution of Maryland State Parks as promoted by Fred W. Besley.

## *Annual Dinner at Bittinger Fire Hall*

Thursday June 29 at 6:30

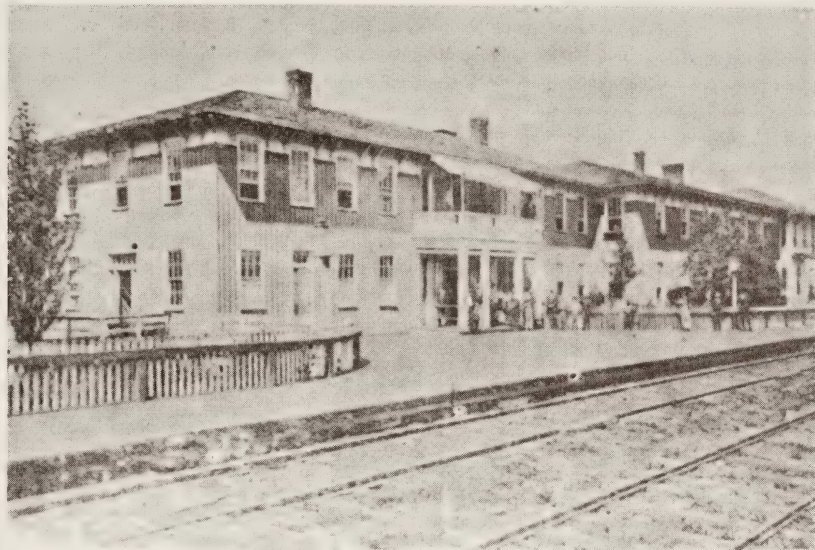
\$12.00 per person

Famous Baked Steak Country Dinner

Make reservations by calling Museum—301-334-3226

# *The Glades Hotel and the Establishment of Dailey's Park*

*by Robert Shaffer*

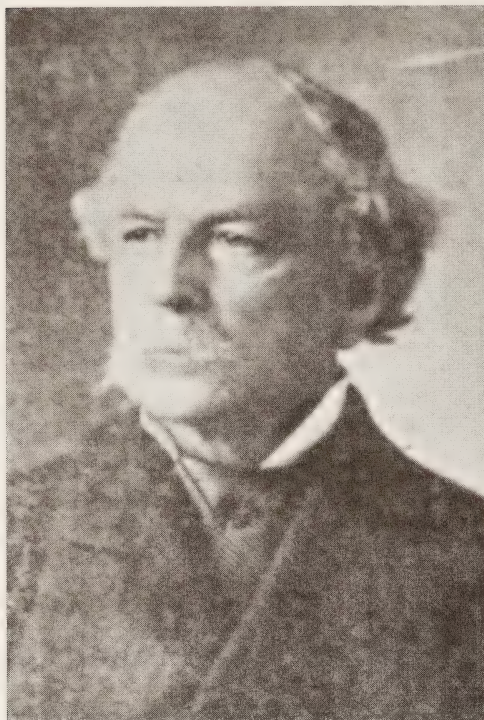


**Original Glades Hotel.**

The first hotel in southern Garrett County was established in 1851. It was called the Glades Hotel, and was built by Rowan White and a Mr. Burton. The hotel was located along the western side of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad track which at that time was still under construction. Over the ensuing years the hotel became rather famous as a summer resort and accommodated a number of notable guests. Among them were U.S. Senator Jefferson Davis (later president of the Confederacy), Lt. William McKinley (later president

of the United States), William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, David Belasco of theater fame, and three Union Generals—Lew Wallace (author of *Ben Hur*), George Crook (considered by many to have been the army's greatest Indian fighter), and Benjamin "Two Horse" Kelly.

In April 1959 John Dailey, on behalf of John Everett, purchased the Glades Hotel from a William Deveman, trustee of the property, for the sum of \$5,225.00. The purchase included the hotel and an adjacent cottage. Mr. Everett immediately leased



**John Dailey.**

the hotel to Ann Rebecca Dailey, John's wife, on April 19, 1859. Two years later Mr. Everett sold the hotel property to Rebecca Dailey, who, with her husband, continued to operate the hotel until their deaths.

In 1874 the original Glades Hotel was totally destroyed by fire. That same year, however, the Daileys built a new hotel on the same property but farther from the railroad tracks. According to the "Oakland Summer Prospectus" of 1896, the Glades Hotel "... reached the zenith of its glory under Mr. Dailey's management." "Mr. Dailey was an estimable citizen and a veritable prince of hosts." Mr. Thomas Scharf, in his scholarly "History of

Western Maryland" (1882), stated that "Mr. Dailey was one of the best-known hotel proprietors in the country, and had a national reputation for urbanity and a thorough knowledge of his business."

In 1865, with the anticipated growth of the town of Oakland, Mr. Dailey decided to acquire some vacant property on the eastern side of the railroad opposite the Glades Hotel. Josias and Sophia Pennington owned part of this property and had divided it into lots called "Pennington's Addition to Oakland"—an area extending southward from Crook St. and eastward from Wilson (now the eastern leg of Crook Crest) to just beyond Fourth St. On November 27, 1865, the Penningtons sold the Daileys lots

1 and 3 of the Addition. (See the map on page 65 on which the area heavily outlined identifies the property the Daileys owned by 1869.)

On November 24, 1869, the Daileys purchased part of military lots 1864 and 1865 (50-acre plots in western Maryland the state offered to men who would sign up for three years in the Continental Army during the Revolution) from William Devecman and Rebecca Tyson. This included some land lying between the railroad and Second St. Devecman had earlier purchased these properties from Isaac and Edward McCarty, who had acquired them from the state of



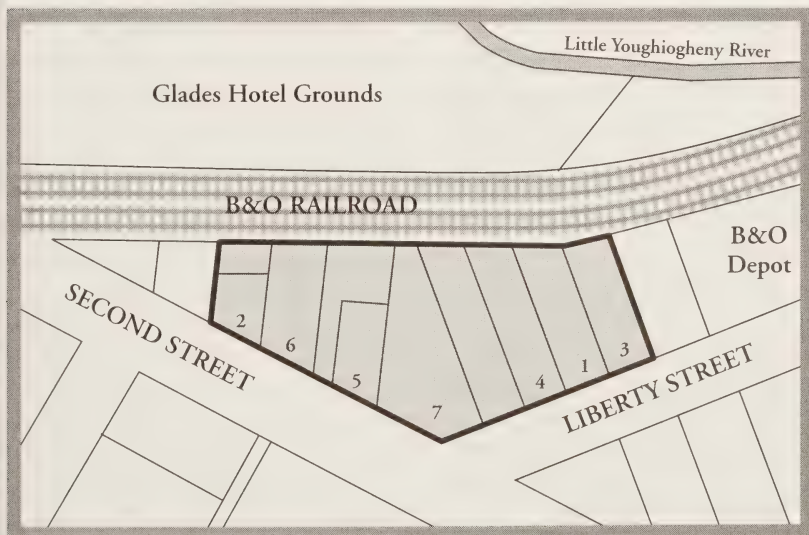


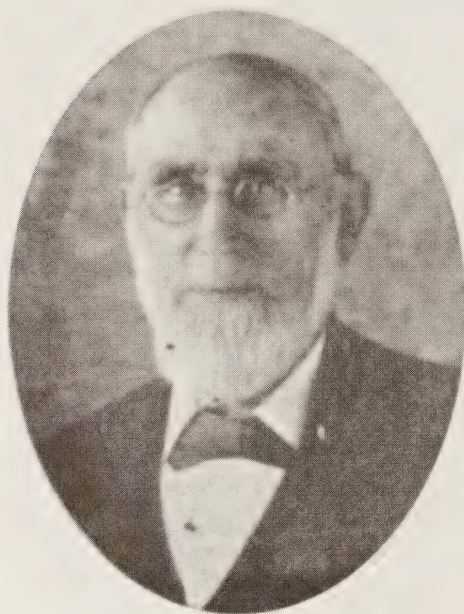
**Dailey's Park.** The boardwalk in front of the Glades Hotel is in the foreground, Memorial Church (now St. Matthew's) is barely visible in the middle background.

Maryland in 1831.

With these acquisitions Mr. and Mrs. Dailey owned nearly all the land along both sides of the railroad between the train station and the railroad crossing on Second St. Since

the land along the northeastern side of the tracks was vacant at the time, Mr. Dailey decided to create a public park across from his hotel. In the early 1900s John M. Davis, owner of the J.M. Davis and Sons Hardware





**J. M. Davis, Publisher of *The Hardware Bulletin*.**

Store (located at the present site of the "Unfinished Business" store) published a periodic booklet titled "The Hardware Bulletin" in which he would occasionally include brief historical sketches of the town. In the December 1906 issue he says, "Dailey's Park occupied the ground between the Ravenscroft Building and the depot, and was kept beautified with flowers, rustic houses, good walks, etc."

In the late 1870s John Dailey began leasing and selling parcels of land in Dailey's Park. On the map these parcels are numbered in the sequence in which they were leased or sold.

- In 1877 Mr. Dailey leased Lot #1 to Mr. J.H. Brooks for 99 years, but renewable forever.

- In October 1877 Mr. Dailey sold Lot #2 to George W. Legge for \$50.00.
- In 1878 Mr. Dailey entered into a 99-year lease with Mr. John Richardson for Lot #3.
- In 1879 Mr. Dailey sold Lot #4 to John M. Jarboe and a Mr. Landwehr.
- Also in 1879, John Shartzler bought Lot #5.
- Finally, in 1881, a month before his death, Mr. Dailey sold Lot #6 to Daniel Offutt.

Rebecca Dailey died on April 24, 1878, and John Dailey on September 15, 1881. Upon John's death, the Daileys' two daughters, Mary and Fannie and their husbands—Gen. George Crook and John Read, an attorney, respectively—inherited John's remaining properties. The Crooks were living in Arizona, where the General was in charge of the Arizona Territory, and the Reads were living in Omaha, Nebraska.

At his death John Dailey still owned Lot #7. The Crooks and Reades sold this parcel to Daniel Offutt in 1884. In 1891 they sold the Glades Hotel property, which included two cottages as well as the hotel, to Edward H. Bartlett for \$12,000. Three years later Mr. Bartlett sold this same property back to Fannie Read. She kept the hotel for about five years, during which time she married a Matthew Markland, and in 1899 sold it



**The Crooks' residence at Ft. Apache in Arizona Territory in the 1880s.**

to the Real Estate Improvement Co. of Baltimore for the modest price of \$5,000. This company was evidently a holding company of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which had built a very large hotel—the Oakland Hotel—on property adjoining the Glades Hotel. It is quite possible that the B&O's decision to purchase the Glades Hotel in 1899 may have been an attempt to either expand the Oakland Hotel or eliminate the competition. At any rate, the Glades Hotel remained in operation for only nine more years after it was acquired by the B&O. John M. Davis mentions in his *Hardware Bulletin* of December 1908 that the Glades Hotel had been torn down. Mr. Davis acquired some of the interior portions of the hotel

—staircase, parlor doors, etc.—and incorporated them into his hardware building.

The land where the Glades Hotel was located remained in the possession of the railroad for many years. In February 1989, the CSX Railroad, which had acquired the B&O through merger, and the Real Estate Improvement Co. of Baltimore sold the land to the Town of Oakland. The Mountain Fresh Pavilion, parking lot, and Rotary Park presently occupy the site.

*Editor's Note: Robert Shaffer has done considerable research into the succession of properties along Second and Liberty Streets in Oakland. Look for this information in future issues of the Glades Star.*



# Spring Fund-Raising Dinner

*by John Grant*

Members and friends of the Garrett County Historical Society gathered on April 20th at the Pleasant Valley Community Center for a Spring fund-raising dinner. Due to a mix-up in the publication of the beginning time for the dinner, a majority of the 128-person audience arrived early. As a result, President Robert Boal started the evening's activities about 6:20 instead of the usual 6:30 p.m. beginning time.

President Boal chose an unusual method to gather the people to their dinner seats; he rang an old fashioned hand bell to get their attention. The hand bell was in keeping with the program to be presented later in the evening; it was to be about "Garrett County's One Room Schools."

Prior to beginning the meal, Pres. Boal asked the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to give the invocation and grace.

Following the meal, Pres. Boal spoke for a minute or two about Alice Eary and her manuscript on one room schools in Garrett County. Fourteen years of research and writing have gone into the manuscript, which she



**President Bob Boal and Mrs. Alice Eary.**

plans to have published in book form sometime in the future.

Although Mrs. Eary has been able to research almost all of the old one room schools in the county, she refrained from including every one of them in her presentation. Instead, she presented interesting bits of history about certain ones; these bits included facts and anecdotes of that particular school. One of the "not too unusual" facts was that school buildings would be rebuilt and perhaps have the name of that school changed. Other times, a school would be rebuilt at a slightly different location and have its name changed. The anecdotes included stories of snakes, fires, and sometimes gun assaults on students and teachers.



**A display of "one room school" objects and photographs.**

Later life of school buildings would be that they were turned into residences, churches, or just torn down.

Mrs. Eary had old photographs of the schools chosen for her program which were projected on a screen while she talked. In addition, she had a display on a table near the entrance door of the Community Center which included photographs and historic items from some of the old one room schools.

After the program about the schools was over, Robert Boal introduced several different people from the audience. Before the

dinner ended, there was a drawing for bouquets on the tables. The first drawing went to Tom Bernard; the second to Loraine Mason.

The dinner was concluded shortly after eight o'clock.



**Gretchen Shaffer and Eleanore Stemple checked in guests at the front door.**



# A Garrett County "Shangrila."

by John Grant



Entrance sign to Hemlock Hollow.

Undoubtedly, many woods' glens throughout Garrett County have the same mystic quality as Hemlock Hollow located at the southern tip of Pleasant Valley. They are those out-of-the-way spots that remind a person of the imaginary place created by James Hilton in his book *Lost Horizon*, published in 1933. Hemlock Hollow had that same quality along with the disappearance and appearance of the place in "Brigadoon" that only exists one day every 100 years.

Like the town in Brigadoon, Hemlock Hollow glen is still there, but the Shangrila quality is gone.

Hemlock Hollow was the child-

hood summer home of Barbara Burrows who later became Mrs. Barbara Yell. She and her husband, Gene Yell, organized and directed the Garrett County Playhouse for 30 years in the second half of the 1900s. Many people still remember the Blue Barn at Deep Creek Lake, which was the home of the Playhouse for a number of years. During the summer months of the Playhouse's existence, some of Gene Yell's drama students from the University of New Mexico would stay at Hemlock Hollow while acting at the Garrett County Playhouse.

About two years ago, this writer attended a dinner at Cornish Manor





**Barbara's childhood playhouse at Hemlock Hollow.**

to honor the memory of Barbara Yell. Prior to the dinner I decided to drive out to Hemlock Hollow and see if it had changed since the time there in 1990; Gene and Barbara Yell were still alive then.

One of my first difficulties on my ride was road improvements, which meant that I couldn't find familiar land marks that had once been there; I had to drive around for several miles before I finally found the property. It was then that I found the glen had changed and the "Shangrila" quality of the place was gone. It wasn't a reflection on the new owners; but things which reminded me of authors and artists of the 1920s were gone.

However, one thing that probably preceded all of the others, was still

there. This was Barbara Yell's playhouse from her childhood. It seems to me that Barbara once said that her father moved it there from Mtn. Lake Park about 1920 when Hemlock Hollow became their summer home. It's still there, sitting on the edge of the woods, waiting for another child who can appreciate life in Hemlock Hollow.

Back when I visited in 1990, I walked over the creek on a bridge to a dance pavilion and a swimming pool; I could still remember how my imagination stylized these features. I envisioned someone like Scott Fitzgerald sitting in a lawn chair watching *Zelda* in the dance pavilion going through ballet exercises. Nearby might have been Thomas Wolfe working on a

manuscript. At that time there was a bench on the bridge and I could imagine someone like Eugene O'Neill sitting there, reading a book while the small stream gurgled over the rocks beneath the bridge.

I'm sure that the drama students from New Mexico made good use of these same facilities during the summers they spent at Hemlock Hollow. As I looked at the bridge and pool I wondered if their minds could envision the authors and actors of the 1920s in the same way that I did.

After the Garrett County Playhouse was history, Gene and Barbara Yell still spent the summers at Hemlock Hollow. In 1992, Barbara shared some anecdotes of the guest house that became a dormitory for the student actors. There was one about a student who snored all night much to the grumblings of fellow student actors; another student was always playing pranks on the others. The students

also had the freedom of the original house of the 1920s and Barbara told about one actress who loved to sit and read by a sunny window in the living room; another student used to do nothing but sit on the front steps and stare off into the woods.

Later, at the dinner party held at Cornish Manor I found that some of the guests had similar memories of Gene and Barbara Yell; several of them had even been swimming in the pool and didn't recommend it because the water was always "freezing cold." And so the evening to honor the memory of Barbara Yell went on, with friends sharing memories of the Playhouse, and the actors.

Thus, with a Shangrila quality and the mystic appearance of the town in Brigadoon, Hemlock Hollow of bygone days existed for several hours that evening at the party to honor the memory of Barbara Yell in Cornish Manor.

## Memorials

Dr. Frank Custer, *from Mary Virginia Jones*

Elizabeth McComas, *from Ken and Leona Hardesty*

Dr. Frank Custer, *from Ken and Leona Hardesty*

Elizabeth Randol, *from Mildred Dunbar*

George Stuck, *from Bob and Rosetta Rodeheaver*

Mary Elliott, *from Bob and Rosetta Rodeheaver*

# *The 150 Club*

*by John Grant*



**Sidewalk in front of Museum door.**

There is a new brick sidewalk on Second Street in front of the Museum. Beginning at the alley that opens onto Second Street, the sidewalk runs north to Liberty Street, and continues on parallel to Liberty Street. Inscribed on selected bricks are the names of people who paid for the new sidewalk. However, near the front door of the Museum are a series of bricks which develop the words "150 Club."

What is the 150 Club and what does it have to do with the names of the people on the bricks between the words and the alley?

Back in 1999 when Oakland was preparing for its 150th Anniversary (Sesquicentennial) one of the problems faced by the Planning Committee was how to finance the activities

planned as the town's responsibility for the week long celebration in October 1999.

After the Committee considered and rejected different ideas for raising the money, Mayor Asa M. McCain put before the Committee the 150 Club plan.

The plan for the 150 Club was to solicit \$150 from 150 individuals and local businesses to raise the necessary money. In the end, it fell a little short of its goal of 150 donations, but sufficient money was raised to finance the various events of the week-long celebration. The names of the individuals and local businesses that contributed to the 150 Club plan are inscribed on the bricks which begin at the alley and run north to the words, "150 Club. "



# *Last "Shop Keeper's" Porch in Oakland*

*by John A. Grant*



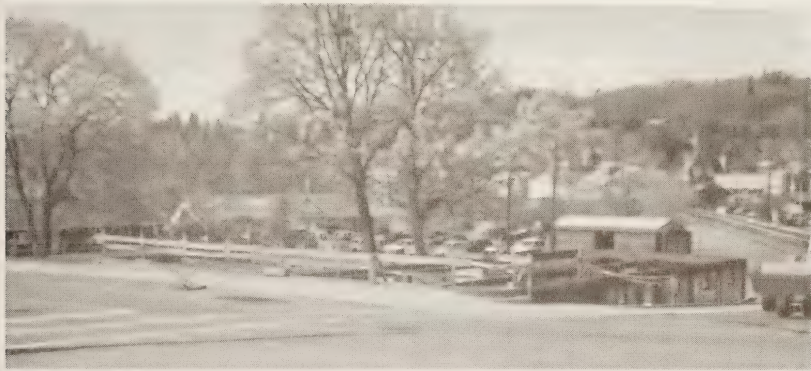
**Last "Shop Keeper's Porch" on the corner of Second and Oak Streets, Oakland, MD.**

**I**n February 2006, demolition began on the building at the corner of Second and Oak Streets in Oakland. By the end of March 2006, the building was gone and with it was the last "shop keeper's" porch in the town of Oakland.

"Shop Keeper's" porch is a descriptive name given to a second story porch over a small shop building. It is a very old architectural feature on buildings all over the world where a shop keeper conducts his business on the ground floor and his family lives on the second floor over top of his

shop. The porch offers a place for him and his family to relax in the evenings when the shop is closed.

Of course, the size of the porch, like the size of the building and its location, varies according to its position on the building. For example, the one that used to be at the corner of Second and Liberty Streets (where the gazebo is now) was as long as the part of Miller's Market which faced Second Street. The one which disappeared with the demolition of the building at Second and Oak Streets was fairly short and rather narrow, because of its



**Corner of Second and Oak Streets after the building with "Shop Keeper's Porch" was torn down.**

position on the side of the building.

Most of the shop keeper's porches on Second and Alder Streets in downtown Oakland were constructed between the 1870s and the end of the 1890s; one unusual exception was built after that time period. The land in the middle of Alder Street takes a sharp rise on the south side, rising twenty feet or so back to the alley parallel to Alder Street. Thus, the land in the rear of a building is almost one story higher than the front.

The unusual exception was that the contractor of the new brick building on Alder Street put the shop

keeper's porch on the rear of the building instead of the front. The porch itself was long and level with the land behind the building. A white picket fence was put around the remaining land in the back, and the effect was that the back of the building looked like a one story house with a nice yard, while the front had the usual "shop" look.

Here and there shop keeper's porches can still be found in towns around Garrett County; they are slowly disappearing like the one at the corner of Second and Oak Streets, which is only a memory now.



**The shop keeper on Alder Street had a second story back yard.**

## *A Wedding in the Cabin*



The Garrett County Historical Society museum has experienced another "first." On February 25, 2006, the 1800s cabin room was the chosen site for the wedding of Jennifer Erin Shaffer and Charles "Chuck" Thomas. Rev. Gail Hixon performed the wedding ceremony in front of the lovely stone fireplace which he built last summer. The cabin is a recent addition to the museum and was designed by Erin's father. It has since become one of the favorite attractions for museum visitors.

The wedding was a private event attended by members of the Shaffer and Thomas families. Erin is a 2002 graduate of Frostburg University

and works for the Dept. of Natural Resources at Greenbrier State Park in Hagerstown. Chuck recently retired as a Natural Resources Police Officer.



# Mary Virginia

Mary Virginia Moore Jones, daughter of Adolpha and Rachel Moore, was born on a farm near Rowelsburg, West Virginia, on February 22, 1914. Mary graduated from Rowelsburg High School in 1932 and West Virginia University in 1936. She taught in Preston County high schools at Bruceton Mills and Tunnelton from 1937 until 1939. On September 24, 1939, she married Lewis R. Jones.

When Mary was about 15, she became interested in genealogy, which turned into a lifelong passion. In later years she was instrumental in researching and documenting the lineage of many of the members of the DAR. She was a charter member of the Youghiogheny Glades Chapter and served as Regent from 1974 to 1976.

In 1949, she was Chairman of the Oakland Centennial Pageant, "Song of the Oaks."

Mary has been a member of the Garrett County Historical Society since 1941. She started the Garrett County Museum, which opened its doors on November 9, 1969. She served as its curator from 1968 until 1984, where she carried the overall responsibility for its care and success. She made a careful study of the most modern methods of preserving, cata-

loging and displaying various artifacts. Her study of the problems involved took her to a number of similar museums in different cities to confer with their experts in this work. She traveled to the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore to learn their cataloging methods and then incorporated these methods into the Garrett County museum. She spent countless hours, days and evenings, preparing material for display and planning the opening of the museum.

In 1969, she was honored by the Garrett County Business and Professional Women's Club for her community work and her contribution to the GC Historical Society. In 1970, the Southern High School Quill and Scroll made her an honorary member for her work also.

In February 2006, Mary sold her home in Oakland and moved to the Heritage in Morgantown, WV. All of us who work at the museum appreciate all the hard work Mary did throughout the years to help make the museum what it is today. She had a dream and it certainly has come true. Besides starting the first museum, Mary also donated numerous artifacts that we have on display in the various rooms.

Mary, we miss you and wish you the best. Thank you for all you have done.

# 2005 Museum Accessions

Oakland Hotel pitcher, Oakland Hotel Sugar bowl, Mtn. Lake Park Hotel Plate, Mtn. Lake Park Hotel wall notice, Mtn. Lake Park Hotel salary receipt, large map of Hinebaugh's Restaurant.. *Gifts from Douglass Malone*

Rush seat stool. Civil War Era rope bed. Wooden lap desk. Glass kerosene lamp, barn Lantern, railroad torch, wrought iron toast rack, wooden butter paddle, wooden clothes beater, tin bread making pan, wire fireplace spit, dancing shoes, early Edison light bulb, 2 chain purses, Ceramic holder with hat pins, numerous candle holders, "Maine" glass covered dish, "Dewey Days" plate, carpenter's scorer, "Defeat of Braddock" picture, iron horse paper weight, B&O Centenary Exhibit Pageant program, spelling game board, belonged to Lewis Jones, 1844 B&O mud digger card, 1923 can-oil & Elliott Victor, records booklet, old tools, early fiddle, cobbler's shoe form, wooden bucket, Mtn. Lake Park plate (grapes), Deer Park salad plate, Oakland Centennial tray, roll top trunk, western MD Steam Album, picture of Sparky Casteel, brass coal bucket, made by Scott Shirer, Deer Park china egg cup and saucer, apple peelee, small stool, toaster rack, B&O lantern, brass coffee pot, 1907 Mtn. Lake Park program, Oakland Bottling Works bottle, First State bank paperweight, 1800s framed Garrett County Map..... *Gifts from Mary Virginia Jones*

Mt. Zion blackboard ..... *Gift from William Harvey  
in memory of Randolph & Mary Harvey*

"Dig That Snow, Man!" booklet, St. John's Lutheran Church history, postcard and bookmark, Civil war medals box, Garrett National coin bank, Oakland High School 50th reunion booklet ..... *Gifts from Wilda Sanders*

Steyer School desk and 3 Steyer

School report cards ..... *Loan from Nellie Harvey*

2 Spanish American War daggers, Spanish American War broad blade weapon, 4 words captured from the Moro Indians by William Chisholm during the Spanish American War, picture of William Chisholm in his uniform ..... *Loan from Randall R. Kahl*

Johnstown Coal & Coke Company (Vindex, MD) booklet..... *Given in memory of Ralph E. Harvey, Charles W. "Toots" Harvey and George S. "Buzz" Harvey, gift from William C. Harvey*

Pewter gravy boat. Deer Park sugar bowl. Deer Park syrup pitcher ..... *Gifts from Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Jones*

- Leo Beachy picture "Car/Plow" ..... *Gift from Cliff DeWitt*
- Garrett National Bank money bag, Chautauqua industrial art desk,  
American Trust money bag ..... *Gifts from Alice Eary*
- 2 B&O train pictures ..... *Gifts from Ralph and Barbara Lee*
- Picture of WWII boxer Bob Martin ..... *Gift from Randall Kahl*
- Crellin United Methodist Church plate ..... *Gift from Kevin Gnegy*
- Fort Alice and Altamont pictures and  
information ..... *Gifts from Dale and Velda Hanlin*
- Lutheran Church, Pastor Luther Hare information, 1949 Centennial  
Program, 1951 Leighton Buick Co. calendar, 1955 automobile record  
book, 1935 Lutheran music book ..... *Gifts from George Ferguson*
- 1939 - 1969 Little League patch, 1966, 1967 and 1968 Little League  
schedules. Little League Charter, 2 B&O box car seals. Feist Dance Folio  
brochure (Elliot's Music Store), Crellin log slip picture, 1930 picture of  
the Crellin School, Crellin mill crew picture ..... *Gifts from Bob Shaffer*
- The B&O Reynoldsville Coal Tariff, B&O Divisions papers, B&O Coach  
Fares, B&O "HO" gauge pamphlet, B&O Transportation Museum booklet,  
1947, 1951 and 1954 B&O schedules ..... *Gifts from Roger E. Shaffer*
- 1863 letter to Salem Humberston describing the Civil War with transcript,  
1901 Mtn. Lake Park Hotel information sheet, Mtn. Lake Park Hotel  
servers picture, Newell & Greery's Fifth Reader, Mtn. Lake Hotel  
ashtray ..... *Gifts from Jane Humbertson*
- Oak wood carving of the Oakland Train Station ..... *Loan from Harvey G.  
Crush, Sr.*
- Captain William Clements Legge WWI picture ..... *Gift from Kenneth Legge  
Hardesty*
- Buhr Mill Buckwheat flour sack, Bell's Studio gift  
box ..... *Gifts from Gretchen Shaffer*
- Shafer/Shaffer, Sanders and Proudfoot genealogies, Simon ancestor listings.  
Bell family records, Wotring-Woodring genealogy, unclaimed WV Civil  
War medals, Stemple family genealogy ..... *Gifts from Penny Proudfoot*
- Old ivory button, Chinese export bowl 1790-1810, apple peeler, corn  
muffin pan, 1870 flint glass spoon holder, coffee grinder B&O dining  
car pencil, Higgins ink bottle, perfection rug cleaner bottle, slaw cutter,  
Bennington coffee pot, "Rebecca at the Well" 1850-1870 pitcher, First  
National "metal" bank ..... *Gifts from Bob & Leanna Boal*



- Sen. John W. McCullough picture and information ..... *Gift from John W. McCullough*
- Boy Scout Jamboree brochure, school bench, B&O Royal Blue sheet Music, B&O red globe lantern..... *Loan from Bob Shaffer*
- The Temple Star 1874 New Testament, 1870-1880 tax records..... *Gifts from Carolyn Davis*
- The Frantz family history ..... *Gift from Pam Frantz Amriens*
- Store picture and large group of candy molds ..... *Gifts from George Scheffel*
- 1850s Howe portable sewing machine, WWII Navy uniform, razor stroup, insect sprayer, army hat, album and pictures—Col. J. Haig Jackson, 2 handmade wool blankets, Ridder picture album, handmade bureau scarf and 4 pillow cases, antique coverlet, given to Granddad Ridder by McNeil's Rangers..... *Gifts from Lorry and Ethel Cosner*
- DeBerry photograph and Droege photograph ..... *Gifts from Wade Houser*
- National Hotel picture, 3 Leo Beachy pictures..... *Gifts from Maxine Broadwater*
- Graniteware wash basin, box of Mendents, Glotfelty family antique dry sink ..... *Gifts from Hazel Glotfelty*
- Deer Park Town Hall picture..... *Gift from William Schaefer*
- Fairview Church of the Brethren 100th anniversary booklet..... *Gift from Pauline V. Cooper*
- The Gravesite of George Washington Wilson booklet . *Gift from Dr. Michael L. Wolfe*
- Wooden works clock, Deer Park Hotel dresser, Deer Park Hotel creamer and sugar bowl, B&O China meat platter, gun from France, 1500s, Harper's Ferry converted rifle, ivory carved straight razor, wooden round butter press, glass butter dish, 1870s Lomax lamps and bracket, 1933 World's Fair cigarette lighter, right-handed saw, Pa. rifle—Golcher-Josh, pistol & holster, 38 cal., Model 1901 pistol, Spanish double barrel pistol, Octagon Spanish double barrel pistol, 2 Mexican pistols, #44 1860s Colt pistol, bullet mold for colts & extra bullet mold, bicentennial spoons and rack, Garrett County chestnut, Set of WWI Red Cross slides in original box, 1933 World's Fair medal, Oakland Hotel urn ..... *Gifts from Cecil Minard*
- 11 Horseshoes, Pentecostal Herald ..... *Gifts from Gary Carr*
- B&O railroad booklet, Garrett genealogy..... *Gifts from Dr. Lawrence Sherwood*

- Early cupboard ..... *Gift from Gary Fitzwater*
- Maryland Genealogical Society bulletins ..... *Gifts from Cathy Yohn*
- Shaef's beverage bottles ..... *Gift from Tom DeBerry*
- Property transfer papers—Admiral Perry to Bowser family ..... *Gift from Jeanette B. Smith*
- Quilt square fabric and pattern pieces ..... *Gift from Marilyn Corby*
- Recipes belonging to Nellie Swartzentruber ..... *Gift from Sue Glaze*
- Medicine spoon from Harned Pharmacy ..... *Gift from Priscilla Wolfe*
- Regulator glass "clock" bottle, corn salve box, Mtn. Lake Park camp meeting ticket, Western MD R.R. "half fare" ticket, B & O RR scenery album, Wonderly Dairy bottle ..... *Gifts from Eunice W. Stackhouse*
- Trundle bed, 2 children's chairs ..... *Gifts from Carolyn Updyke*
- Oakland, MD, National Weather records ..... *Gift from Bea Crosco*
- A.D. Naylor & Co. receipts, Oakland Lumber Co. receipts ..... *Gifts from Nordeck Shaffer*
- Picture—Maryland Mountaineers Band ..... *Gift from Joe and Leota Peck*
- Franklin D. Custer—Autobiography ..... *Gift from Marilyn Posten*
- Hoyes UM 150th Anniv. plate and booklet ..... *Gift from Mr. & Mrs. Donald Moss*
- 1900s girls' clothing made by Margaret Lacey Ranney ..... *Gift from Martha Mead*
- Booklets—"The Climate of GC" and "The Climate of Oakland" . *Gifts from Herbert Close, Jr.*
- 1852 German Bible, 1892 Wm. Hoye ledger, 1917 Chadderton School picture, 1908 Deer Park School souvenir, 1917 Oakland Grammar School First Promotion Program, 1915 Chadderton School souvenir, Female Trader's License ..... *Gift from Jeanie Lohr*
- Yoder Hillside history—Home of Charles Miller ..... *Gift from David Nock*
- Wildflowers of the Alleghanies ..... *Gift from Helen Patrick*
- Cuppett - Cobbet Ancestors ..... *Gift from Carolyn Lewis Johnson*
- Oakland Hotel silver sugar bowl, 1917 and 1918 Annual Fair booklets ..... *Gifts from Robert Alexander*
- Deer Park Hotel meat platter ..... *Gift from Regina Messer*
- Wooden bed for the cabin loft ..... *Gift from Bob & Dixie Moore*

- Book—"Fire from the Sky" ..... *Gift from William Franklin*
- Carbide miner's lamp ..... *Gift from Nellie Poland*
- Notebook—WWII Garrett County, News articles and ads, large  
school bell ..... *Gifts from Kevin Callis*
- G Scale B&O Royal Blue Train ..... *Gift from Scott Atwill*
- Apron, yellow "Mother USA handkerchief, Camp Lee, VA handkerchief,  
U.S. Army dresser scarf. Blue "Mother" handkerchief.... *Gifts from Robert  
Ault, Jr.*
- 1941 Oakland High School class pictures & info ..... *Gift from Lola Mae Cox*
- Bench, chair, Civil Defense flag ..... *Gifts from Dr. Herbert Leighton*
- Large assortment of papers, magazines and pictures..... *Gift from Ellen  
Zimmerman*
- Tool used to dehorn a steer or bull ..... *Gift from Troy Gnegy*
- Viet Nam money, bayonet..... *Gift from Raymond O. Haver, Sr.*
- Benson rifle, powder horn, DuPont gunpowder can, bullets, bullet mold,  
crocheted bedspread ..... *Gifts from Helen Judy*
- Maryland Theater posters..... *Gifts from Debbie Klotz*
- 1932 Bethel School picture ..... *Gift from Beulah Tasker*
- Piano class at St. Peter's Catholic School..... *Gift from Mary Utterback*
- Caboose lantern ..... *Gift from Bob Sharp*
- Porch Stories—History of the Guard Family ..... *Gift from Jane Fox*
- Child's Oakland Drum & Bugle Corp. helmet and pants ..... *Gift from Guy  
Hinebaugh, Jr.*
- Viet Nam money, 5 plaques..... *Gift from Tom Hileman*
- 1870-1940 St. Matthew's Parish booklet ..... *Gift from Chris Nichols*
- War ration book, Garrett Community College postcard, 1984 Winterfest  
pin, 4 Garrett County pictures ..... *Gift from Mary Foley*
- Loch Lynn Garage picture ..... *Gift from Terry & Ruth Imhoff*
- 1915 Christmas tree candle holders..... *Gift from Brenda McCartney*
- Handmade Garrett Co. historical quilt..... *Gift from Audrey S. Feld*

Accessions will be listed quarterly beginning with  
the September issue of the *Glades Star*



## *Flower Fund*

Garrett County Historical Society has established a continuous flower fund to provide seasonal flowers for Dailey Park, Gazebo, Hotel Porch and the front of the Museum. Gifts "in memory of" or "in honor of" will be acknowledged in *The Glades Star*

## *Flower Fund Donations*

Margaret Germain

Pat and Mike VanBuskirk

Erika Capelle

Mabel Thompson

Memorial for Mary Filsinger Reardon, *from Bob and Leanna Boal*

Memorial for Mary Filsinger Reardon, *from Frances Patterson*

## *Application for Membership* *Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$15 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of *The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only one copy each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis, from July 1 through June 30.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New      \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

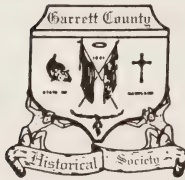
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, P.O. Box, 28, Oakland, MD 21550-0028



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## *Donations*

- Daniel Offutt
  - J. Samuel Slicer
  - Mildred Wucik
  - Ted and Barbara Kemp, Jr.
  - Claire Richardson
  - Weir and Hildegard Pollard
  - Rob and Sharon Markwood
  - Wayne and Judy Wilt
  - Ihor and Sandra Zakaluzny
  - Commission for Women, Hall of Fame for Lorilla Tower
  - Irving and Marin Day
- 

## *Summer Museum Hours*

May 1 through December 31, 2006

Open Monday through Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

# THE Glades Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

ISSN: 0431-915X

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THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 11, NO 3

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

SEPTEMBER 2006

## THE MOUNTAIN CHAUTAUQUA



JULY, 1895.—SIXTEEN PAGES.

Midsummer Programme Edition.  
SEASON 1895.



Taken from the July 1895 *Mountain Chautauqua*, Midsummer Programme Edition.



## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

### OFFICERS 2004-2005

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1st Vice President .....	James Ashby
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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

PUBLISHED quarterly by the Society at Oakland, MD. Entered as second-class matter March 12, 1942, at the Post Office at Oakland, Maryland, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Glades Star, P.O. Box 28, Oakland, MD 21550.

CORRESPONDENCE: Glades Star, P.O. Box 28, Oakland. MD 21550.

## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# Mountain Lake Park The Mountain Chautauqua

Mountain  
Lake  
Park.

bottom the program's title page reproduced on the cover of this issue of the Glades Star probably refers to the well-known Methodist campground on the New Jersey shore. For more information on Chautauqua assemblies see the March 2005 edition of The Glades Star for a fine article by Melodee Hill.)

THE PARADISE OF THE MOUNTAINS

The most superb and sensible summer resort in America. No longer an experiment but a great, big, overwhelming reality.

Twelve years of splendid history, and the expenditure of \$350,000, puts the case in a nut shell, and speaks in thunder tones of great faith in the future. For health, pleasure, rest, intellectual opportunities, inspiring fellowships, scenic beauty, and accessibility, it is without a parallel on the American continent.

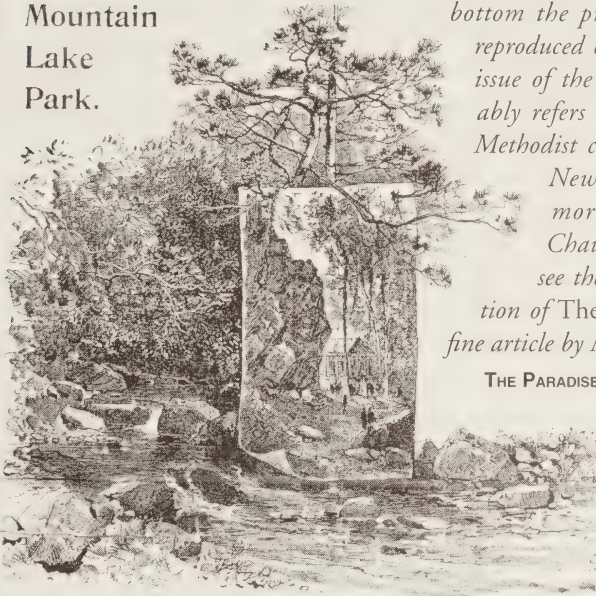
Study these facts before deciding for this summer, and the summers to come:

WHAT MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK IS NOT

**Not a place** for expensive dressing and meaningless idling.

The town of Mountain Lake Park celebrated the 125th anniversary of its founding and the 75th anniversary of its incorporation on August 12 and 13. Balloon rides, music, a tour of Victorian cottages, antique cars, and food were among the event's attractions. Gretchen Shaffer excerpted the following description of the town's initial attractions from the July 1895 edition of *The Mountain Chautauqua*, a literary journal publicizing the town and its Chautauqua and popular education activities.

(Editor's note: The "Ocean Grove" incorporated into the scroll work at the



*Not a place* given to social frivolities which enervate and rob a vacation of its real purpose.

*Not a place* where hotel keepers get all your earnings of the year.

*Not a place* where exacting social requirements rob you of your strength and you end your vacation more of a wreck than when you began it.

#### WHAT THE PARK IS

*A Summer City* protected from grave moral perils. It is a Christian resort. Parents can feel safe regarding their children.

*A Summer Home* in the most salubrious of climates. The thermometer rarely ever clambers into the nineties.

*A Summer School* with a score of competent instructors in various departments.

*A Summer Lyceum* with the best lectures, concerts, and entertainments obtainable.

*A Summer-Resort* amidst superb scenery of mountain and glade which baffles all description.

*A Summer Paradise.* No malaria; no hay fever; no insect pests; no liquors; no gambling.

#### WHERE IS THE PARK?

On the summit of the Alleghenies, 2,800 feet above tide water. It is kissed by the first beams of the morning sun, and receives the last evening baptism of crimson and gold.

#### WHAT THE PARK HAS

800 acres of heavily timbered park; 200 acres cleared, splendid roads; miles of concrete sidewalk;

picturesque rustic bridges; giant white oaks; carpets of green grass; electric lights; beautiful twenty acre lake, with splendid boating; 200 beautiful cottages; 5 elegant and well kept hotels; a handsome, nine-room building devoted to the schools; a great and beautiful auditorium, accommodating 2,500 people; a unique and attractive new hall of philosophy; stores of all kinds; telegraph, express and post office.

Something of rare interest and profit going on from June to October.

Headquarters of International and Interdenominational Camp-Meeting; W.C.T.U. School of Methods; Woman's Foreign Missionary Society Convention; Epworth League Rally; The Mountain Chautauqua Summer Schools; The Great Mountain Chautauqua; National Local Preachers' Association.

*A splendid chance for investment. 100 lots sold last year; 40 new cottages will be built this season.*

*No trouble to realize from 10 to 20 per cent, on investments at the Park.* Many are doing better. Lots 50 x 120 sold from \$50.00 up according to location

Special low rates on the railroads every summer.

Board in hotels and cottages at from \$5.00 to \$15.00 a week.

No finer place under the stars to own a summer home. No cheaper time than the present to buy. Come look, and be convinced that the "half has not been told."



# First Garrett County Fair

by Gretchen B. Shaffer

Garrett County's "50th Agriculture Fair" was held August 12 - 19, 2006, in McHenry. The well-publicized event was deemed a great success, embodying a wide range of special events. *The Garrett County Weekender* devoted an entire ten-page supplement to the fair, and included an article pointing out that the "first" Garrett County fair did not actually occur in 1957, as might be presumed. The writer went on to describe how the first Garrett County fair was actually held in Oakland forty years earlier, in 1917. The article talked about the ebb and flow of the fair over the next fifteen years and the moving of the fair to the Bradley property west of Oakland in the early 1920s. Eventually, following "several years of bad weather resulting in financial losses," a decision was made to discontinue the annual fair. The fair of 1932 was said to be the last until interest was regenerated in 1957.

Actually, the fair of 1917 was not the first fair after all. Our research has revealed that a prior, very highly publicized "First Annual Fair" occurred on October 8-10, 1913. This fair was such a significant event that on October 16, 1913, both local newspapers, *The Mountain Democrat* and *The Republican*, devoted their entire front

pages to detailed accounts of activities surrounding the fair. The headline in *The Republican* proclaimed "Garrett County's First Annual Fair a Success in Every Particular." *The Mountain Democrat* stated, "Thousands in Attendance—A Well Behaved and Orderly Crowd Visit Oakland and Return Home Pleased with Their Trip to the Fair—The Management Well Pleased by the Encouragement Given Them." *The Republican* went on to say, "The fair was a success. More than this cannot be said — it was a grand success, and the few men and women who worked so hard to make it so, deserve and no doubt will receive the plaudits of the citizens of the westernmost and most progressive patch of land in the old state of Maryland."

The fair was held in a 50 x 112 foot, three-story building, located on a large lot in the vicinity of the present Pizza Hut and K of P buildings on Third Street in Oakland. It rained on the opening day and the automobile parade had to be postponed; however, 1,400 tickets were sold at the gates. A Frostburg gentleman said, "I bought a ticket to Oakland, but from appearances, I got off at the Hagerstown Fair." Another person said, "Such an exhibit of potatoes I never saw before,



**Garrett County Fair on Third Street in Oakland in the early 1920s.**

and I have attended many fairs.”

The sun came out the second day, and all day long thousands of people came by train, carriage, car, and wagon. One highlight of that day was the horse parade.

The third day was equally successful. Visitors from Pittsburgh, Rev. J.P. McKee and his wife, were so pleased with the potato exhibit that they placed an order with Ed Sollars for a supply of potatoes to be shipped to their home. Some of the names for potatoes grown in Garrett County in 1913 were: Improved Late Rose, Pure Early Rose, White New Yorker, Brew, Great Divide, and Endurance. The potato display was said to be the largest and finest visitors had ever seen.

The first floor of the building contained the horse department. First place was won by H.J. Speicher & Co. for their Belgian Jonas, second place

was won by The Oakland Stock Improvement Assoc. for their imported Percheron Jonah, and third place was won by H.J. Speicher & Co. for their imported Percheron Kone.

The second floor was occupied by the Departments of Grain, Vegetables, and Poultry. One attraction on this floor included harnesses, saddles, collars, blankets, trunks, satchels, and many other articles used by horsemen. A large gray wooden horse stood in this booth attracting a lot of attention. Other exhibits included an 1821 handmade carpet loom, a De Laval Cream Separator, and a mill exhibit showing sacks of flour made from wheat grown and ground in Garrett County, and displayed by Dixon and Kelso. The Mountain Top Flouring Mills also exhibited buckwheat flour they had ground. Oats, maple products, dairy products,

## WHILE AT THE FAIR

### Get Your Whiskers Removed at **BITTNER&STAHL'S Barber Shop**

From 1917 booklet. "Mumbles & Squeaks" now occupies the site.

corn, garden vegetables, and apples were also displayed. Apples on display were: Rawles Janet, Rome Beauties, Northern Spy, Sweet Russett, and York Imperial. Chestnuts, which were wiped out many years ago due to disease, were also displayed.

The chicken exhibit attracted great attention. Some varieties of poultry were White Orpingtons, White Leghorn cockerel, Black Orpingtons, White Wyandottes, Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, White Leghorns, Brown Leghorns, Black Minorcas, Bantams, Pekin ducks, Indian Runner ducks, Dove Runner ducks, and a Bronze Turkey Tom.

The third floor was devoted to housewares, home furnishings, and other household items. The scene was described as a virtual "Fairy Land." "As the visitor entered, he stopped, surprised at the great panorama before him, and was lost in admiration; surprise after surprise greeted him as he moved through the hall. The trade's displays were fine and exhibited much taste and thought in their construction and indicated that we were putting on city airs." Booths were occupied by Messrs. J.M. Davis & Sons, Joseph E. Hamed, D.E. Bolden, James D. Harnill, A.G. Sturgiss, J.A. White, Harry Sincell,

Just Government League, and the Civic Club. The Just Government League was there to obtain signatures on a petition to give women the right to vote. Other displays included sewing machines, paints, varnishes, washing machines, felt roofing, glassware, general hardware, kitchen utensils, and various novelties. Prizes were awarded for the best cakes, pies, and loaf of bread baked in "Davis ranges." D.E. Bolden displayed a bedroom suite, "a perfect beauty, fit for the palace of a king as well as the home of a Garrett County farmer." James Hamill had a display of Spalding sporting goods, such as golf, lawn, tennis, baseball, croquet goods, and outfits. Joseph Harned, proprietor of the Oakland Pharmacy, exhibited drugs, stationery, and Kodaks. Ladies were given roses and samples of choice spices, talcum, soaps, and perfumes.

The H. Weber and Sons Co. created a beautiful floral display. There were three large tables decorated with autumn leaves, running vines, moss, and "flowers of many kinds, the kind that only come from the plants of this wide-awake firm." They also had a display of vegetables that were admired by all who looked at them. One reporter noted, "The Weber family is doing much to make this world



worth living in.”

The Oakland High School also had a booth designed by Prof. Lora-ditch. The booth looked like a house divided into four apartments, with a hallway through the center. Each apartment represented a department of the High School, and was filled with written work from the several subjects taught. Some of the students' displays included pastry and jelly, demonstrations made on the typewriter, and handmade furniture consisting of a library table, a bookcase, and an upholstered rocker.

One corner of the third floor included “fancy work” under the supervision of Mrs. William R. Offutt. “It was one of the handsomest as well as best arranged departments in the fair building. There were more than 300 displays covering all manner of fancy work.” Displays included drawn work, embroidery, crochet, white work, knitting, and Battenberg embroidery.

Oakland, Kitzmiller and Friendsville “graded schools” also had displays consisting of penmanship, painting, drawing, weaving, china painting, mounting, and language.

The Meshach Browning Exhibit was one of the most interesting. This display was set up by Meshach's grandson, Ex-Senator Browning. It consisted of the original manuscript of *Forty-Four Years of the Life of a Hunter* in Meshach's handwriting, as well as his hunting rifle, powder horn, pouch, and hunting knife. His bear trap and many articles used at the old

mill in Sang Run in 1824 were also on display.

The 2006 fair was attended by most of the candidates running for various offices this year. It is recorded that the 1913 fair also had “political candidates and would-be candidates of both parties shaking hands and smiling upon the voter and his wife. My, how glad they seemed to be, to meet their beloved constituents once more and to congratulate them upon this glorious occasion, and present them with their cards. The candidates were here, were seen, and were heard. A very sociable lot they were. Even in the gloomiest, wettest hour they wore a sweet smile and spoke pleasant, cheerful and hopeful words. May the smile never wear off, and the pleasant words flow until Gabriel blows his trumpet.”

The fair even included two games of baseball played on the Oakland Hotel grounds between teams from Gorman and Oakland. The German Arion Band of Frostburg furnished the music.

One reporter wrote, “The best of the wine was reserved until the last of the feast.” He was referring to the parade on the last day. School children wore sashes made of “crepe Maryland colors.” They marched along Second Street led by the band and Dr. Henry McComas, Mayor of the City of Oakland. “The 1913 fair ended without an accident or disturbance of any kind during the three days of its existence. Only one or two drunken men were seen during this time and they were quiet and inoffensive.”

The subsequent fair of 1917 was documented in a publication entitled, "Premium Book and Catalog, First Annual Fair of the Agricultural Fair Association of Oakland, Garrett County, Maryland." A copy of this publication is currently on display in the Early Industry Room of the museum. This fair was held on October 2-5, 1917, and is described as follows: "The Fair Grounds comprise over five acres of ground, and are located on the block bounded by Third, Centre and Fourth Streets in Oakland, and the main exhibition building is located on the adjoining property." The 16,800 square foot exhibition building had a two-story front porch along its entire width, which served as a bandstand and shelter.

The first floor was occupied by the Poultry Department, and the second floor contained farm, garden, and orchard exhibits. The third floor was the "Woman's Kingdom," and was set up by local merchants.

A list of rules was established to maintain order during the fair:

"All persons in charge of wagons and other vehicles used in transportation of forage or refreshments must obtain tickets from the Secretary, and said wagons and other vehicles must be removed from the grounds by 8:00 o'clock p.m., of each and every day during the Fair, and no person will be permitted to remain upon the grounds during the night unless especially authorized to do so."

"An ample police force will be upon the grounds day and night. They will be sworn in as conservators

of the peace with authority under the law of the State and the town of Oakland to arrest all disorderly persons. An alert and responsible Detective Agency has been employed to arrest all suspicious characters or known pickpockets found on the grounds."

"No animals will be permitted to run at large upon the grounds or be hitched to the trees, buildings or enclosure. All animals, especially bulls and stallions, must be well secured to avoid accidents."

"All attendants, articles and animals will be subject to the orders of the managers or their authorized agents, and all animals must be paraded when so ordered by the management."

Admission rates for the 1917 fair were: adults—35¢, children under 12—20¢, and season tickets, good for 4 days—\$1.00 each.

The B&O railroad offered low, round-trip fares to Oakland from as far east as Cumberland and as far west as Grafton, and operated special excursion trains. The new state road was open between Oakland and Cumberland. The drive from Cumberland could then be made in less than two hours.

In summary, our research has concluded that there have been at least three "first" fairs in Garrett County, dating back to 1913. If any of our readers have additional accounts of earlier fairs, we would appreciate hearing from you.

# *Lion In The Railroad Boxcar*

*by John A. Grant*

The event could have several different names because of its consequences. However, it is best described as the night a circus lion spent in a boxcar at the Oakland railroad station, as its cage on a Circus Wagon was being repaired.

The event took place in 1891, during the summertime. Action leading up to the event took place the night before when the lion's cage was being loaded on the Circus Train. Somehow, the wagon and cage fell off one side of the flatcar in the train. It was too late in the day to make any repairs so it was decided to do the repair work when the Circus Train arrived in Oakland.

When it arrived the next day, a close inspection revealed the damage to wagon and cage was more seri-

ous than first realized, and extensive repairs had to be made immediately. The Circus Wagon and cage were taken to A.D. Naylor's blacksmith shop, which was near the station.

One thing about the repair work had not been considered, and it was what to do with the lion while the work was going on. Several alternatives were suggested, but in the end it was decided to put the lion in an empty boxcar sitting on the station sidetrack. Since the circus performance was scheduled for the next day, the crew in the blacksmith shop decided to work continuously until the repairs were finished. (In the end it took all night to do the work.)

This decision appealed to everyone concerned except the lion.

Gradually, as the daylight hours



Rail siding behind Oakland Train Station where circus trains unloaded.



slipped into darkness, the work on the cage and wagon continued. It was summertime and when residents of the area prepared for bed, they could hear the blacksmith's hammer pounding on the anvil, and the lion roar in his boxcar. Periodically, the discontented lion would lapse into silence, but would begin roaring again when aroused by a railroad train passing through Oakland. For the residents, the periods of silence were more nerve wracking than the lion's roaring. When the lion roared, at least they knew he was still in the boxcar, but they worried about what would happen if the lion escaped.

Of course, every town has a share of "practical jokers." One man who couldn't sleep decided to walk down to the blacksmith shop to see how the repair work was progressing. It was in the wee hours of the morning,

and one of the periods when the lion was not roaring. The man peered into the blacksmith shop and saw A. D. Naylor and his crew huddled near the cage fitting in a new piece. He sneaked up behind them and let out a loud roar.

The reaction was instantaneous; the crew fled in all directions, and Mr. Naylor spun around with a hammer raised high prepared to fight the lion.

"Oh my," he said in a frightened voice. "I thought for a moment the lion was loose and had come in to get his cage."

It all happened one summer night in 1891, but for years on a warm summer night the local residents would smile and remember the summer night when they couldn't sleep for the noise of the lion roaring in the railroad boxcar.

## *Binding Of Volume 10*

The December 2005 issue of *The Glades Star* marked the completion of Volume 10 of the magazine. Begun in March 2003 the bound volume will contain over 400 pages.

Copies of the Volume 10 have been set aside for the purpose of binding this fall and they will be offered for sale in time for Christmas this year if all goes as planned. The price for the bound copies of Volume 10 will be \$40.00.

As in the past, members of the Historical Society may have their individual copies of *The Glades Star* bound at the same time. Final price for this binding will be \$20.00.

Members who want their personal copies bound at this same time are asked to tie their copies into a small bundle and bring them to the Museum in Oakland sometime during the last week in September of this year. Please note that Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays during September.

# Succession of Properties Comprising the Original Dailey's Park

by Robert Shaffer

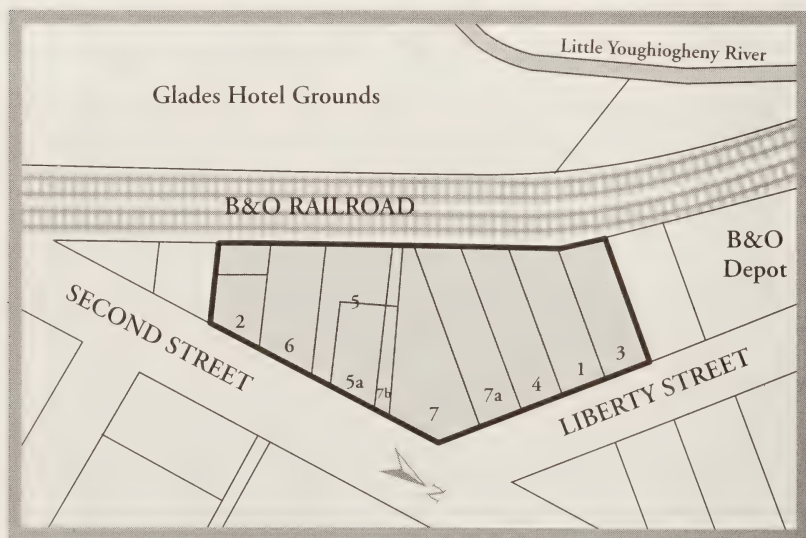
As stated in the June 2006 issue of the *Glades Star*, John and Rebecca Dailey, owners of the Glades Hotel, also owned nearly all of the land along Second and Liberty Streets between the train station and the railroad crossing in Oakland by 1869. The area is heavily outlined on the map, and the numbers indicate the order in which the Daileys first sold or leased the various parcels between 1877 and 1881, the year of John's death. His heirs—his daughters and their husbands—sold the remaining lot (No. 7) in 1884.

The following information describes how the parcels were conveyed

from person to person between 1881 and the present.

## LOT No. 3, JOHN RICHARDSON LEASE PROPERTY

In August 1881, John Dailey and his daughters, Mary and Fannie, and their respective husbands, Gen. George Crook and John Read, sold this lot to Gilmore S. Hamill. John Richardson, however, who had leased the property for 99 years in 1878, continued to hold the lease. He conveyed the remainder of his lease to Catherine Weber in 1882, and in 1887 Henry and Catherine Weber conveyed the leasing rights to Alonzo D. Naylor. In 1898 Gilmore and Lizzie Hamill sold the property to



Alonzo D. Naylor, who then owned both the property and the lease. This is the site of the old A.D. Naylor Hardware Store that burned in 1975. The property remains in the Naylor family to the present time.

**LOT NO. 1, J.H. BROOKS LEASE PROPERTY**

John Dailey, the Reads, and the Crooks sold this property to Gilmore S. Hamill in June 1881. The deed also conveyed to Mr. Hamill all the interest in the lease previously held by J.H. Brooks. However, in 1878 Mr. Brooks had conveyed his "leasehold" to John T. Graham and G.S. Hamill "in trust" as partial settlement of debts he owed. The leasehold was subsequently sold to the Baltimore Savings and Loan Company. Five years later the bank sold the lease to John and Elizabeth Graham, and in 1889 the Grahams conveyed it to Henry and Godfrey Felty. In 1894 Mr. Hamill sold the property itself to Henry Felty. Thus the Feltys then owned both the property and the leasehold. In 1898 Mr. Felty sold the property to Richard Jamison, and in 1921 Mr. Jamison conveyed the property to Alonzo D. Naylor, who incorporated it into his hardware business. In 1935 A.D. Naylor conveyed this property to Paul, Arthur, and Townshend Naylor, and it remains in the Naylor family to the present time.

**LOT NO. 4 JARBOE/LANDWEHR PROPERTY**

In 1902 Mr. Jarboe and Mr. Landwehr sold this lot to Darrius Dixon and Ephraim Kelso. In 1935 Attorney E. Ray Jones, trustee of the Kelso property, sold this lot to Paul, Arthur, and Townshend Naylor, and

it remains in the Naylor family.

**LOTS 5; AND 7, SHARTZER/OFFUTT PROPERTIES**

In 1887 John Shartzer and Daniel Offutt agreed to trade with each other the properties they owned at the corner of Second and Liberty Streets. In this trade, Daniel Offutt received all of the property (Lot No. 5) that John Shartzer had purchased from John Dailey in 1879, and Mr. Shartzer received a portion of the property (Lot No. 7) that Mr. Offutt had purchased from the Reads and Crooks in 1884. Mr. Offutt retained two portions of his property - a lot 40 feet wide between Liberty Street (7a) and the railroad and a narrow strip along the northern side of the old Shartzer property (7b). The narrow strip of land was at one time a boardwalk between the Glades Hotel and Second Street.

In 1888 Daniel Offutt sold to the newly organized Garrett County Bank a portion of the property (5a) he had obtained from John Shartzer the previous year. The bank property had 45 feet of frontage on Second Street, was 74 feet deep on the south side and 97 feet deep on the north. The bank was the first one established in this area and opened for business in 1888. It was later renamed the "Garrett National Bank." In 1967, when the bank relocated to a new building, the old bank property was sold to Dr. James Feaster. He renamed it "The Professional Building," and for several years it housed a variety of doctors and lawyers. In 1985 Dr. Feaster sold the building to Dr. William Fedde who, in turn, sold it to the Garrett County



Historical Society in 1996. The Historical Society then relocated its museum from Center Street to the newly acquired property on Second Street, where it remains to the present time.

The Offutt property (7a) remained in the family for many years and was ultimately sold by William Offutt to William Gibson in 1951. In 1958 Mr. Gibson sold this lot to Brownings, Inc., and in 1999 Brownings donated the lot to the Historical Society, which now use it as the museum parking lot.

In 1897 John Shartzter sold his property at the corner of Second and Liberty to DeCoursey Bolden. Mr. Bolden sold the property to Nannie Burke in 1907 who then sold it to Harry Miller in 1918. Nellie Ache subsequently inherited this property from Harry Miller, and in 1956 she sold it to Earl Shartzter and William Naylor. They operated a meat market/grocery store on the corner for many years and then sold it to Bradley Stewart in 1978. The building on this corner burned in 1999, and in that same year Mr. Stewart sold the property to the Garrett County Historical Society. This lot is presently known as the newly established "Dailey's Park" and is the site of the restored gazebo and gas house from the grounds of the Deer Park Hotel.

## THE OLD RELIABLE Garrett National Bank.

OF OAKLAND, MARYLAND.

Commenced Business November 14th, 1888.

CAPITAL,	- - -	\$50,000.00
Surplus and Profits,	- - -	60,000.00

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D. E. OFFUTT, President.

G. S. HAMILL, Vice President.

S. T. JONES, Cashier.

G. A. FRALEY, Assistant Cashier

### DIRECTORS

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JOHN M. DAVIS,

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Interest at the rate of 3 per cent per annum  
paid on Time Certificates of Deposit  
and Savings Accounts.

### SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES

for rent at reasonable rates.

Ad in both the *Mountain Democrat* and *The Republican*—Thursday, October 16, 1913.

#### LOTS 5: AND 6, DANIEL OFFUTT PROPERTY

This property, minus the Historical Society Museum plot, remained in the Offutt family for many years. In 1945 William Offutt, trustee, sold it to Irvin and Mary Rudy. This property has 85 feet of frontage on Second Street and approximately 130 feet of frontage along the railroad, extending behind the museum. Presently this property remains in the Rudy family and is the site of Rudy's Clothing Store and The Book Mark'et.

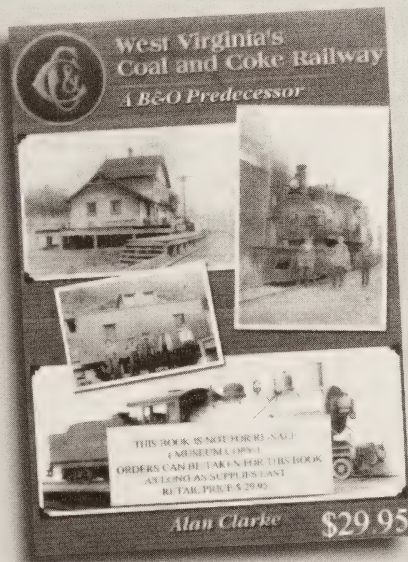
#### LOT 2, GEORGE W. LEGGE PROPERTY

Around 1894-95 George and Julia Legge divided his property into

two lots. The western lot fronted on Railroad Street, the eastern lot on Second Street. The Legges sold the western lot to George Martin in February 1895, who in turn sold it to Bernard Reynolds later that same year. The lot was subsequently sold at public auction to Ralph Helferstay in 1902, and in 1903 Mr. Helferstay sold it to Thomas White. Two years later, Mr. White sold it to Floyd Lee, who operated a restaurant/saloon there. He apparently had a problem maintaining the mortgage payments so in 1907 Mr. Hamill, trustee, sold the property to James Clark of Cumberland. Mr. Clark sold the property in May 1912 to Truman West for \$1,000, and in 1939, when Truman and Bridget West fell behind in tax payments, Stuart Hamill purchased the property at a tax sale for \$65.94. That same year

Mr. Hamill sold the property to William and Harriett Gonder. In 1970 Harriet Gonder sold the property to Marvin Jones. The building on this property, known in later years as the Fireside Restaurant, was severely damaged by fire in 1994, and Mr. Jones subsequently donated the property to the town of Oakland.

In 1879 Mr. and Mrs. Legge sold the Second Street lot to James and Maria Litzinger. They, in turn, sold the property to Lewis Gortner in May 1912. This lot later descended from Lewis Gortner to his son, Alva, and the Gortners operated a shoe store there for many years. In 1973 Alva Gortner sold this property to Robert and Dorothy Rudy. It is presently the site of Mumbles and Squeaks Antiques and Country Store.



## West Virginia's Coal and Coke Railway

by Alan Clarke

Available for Viewing

Orders Can be Taken

For Sale in the  
Museum Bookstore

# *Kitzmiller Centennial* *1906 – 2006*

*by John Grant*

Combining it with their annual Homecoming weekend, the town of Kitzmiller celebrated its Centennial on July 21 – July 23. A formal recognition ceremony of the event was held Saturday morning July 22 on the Kitzmiller School grounds.

The school grounds were covered with small tents where vendors were offering a multitude of items to the crowd who came to celebrate the combined annual Homecoming weekend and Centennial celebration. A low platform was set up under a canvas awning where the formal part of the celebration was to take place. Seated on the platform were the County Commissioners, Oakland's Mayor Asa McCain, Delegate George

Edwards, and John Grant. Seated off to one side were Homecoming King and Queen, Daniel Stiles and Faith Stiles and their Courtiers. Kitzmiller's Mayor Jim Browning acted as Master of Ceremonies, introducing those on the platform one by one, the King and the Queen and the Court; he also introduced certain people standing with the crowd of spectators who had gathered for the ceremony.

Persons on the platform received a framed copy of the Kitzmiller Centennial emblem sheet as the mayor called them to the front of the platform. Final presentation was to John Grant, who then spoke briefly on the history of the Kitzmiller area.

Ceremonies were concluded



Tents were set up on the Kitzmiller School grounds.



at about 11:15 a.m. after Mayor Browning recognized and introduced additional people among the assembled spectators.

#### BRIEF HISTORY OF KITZMILLER

The beginning of Kitzmiller took place in 1802 when Thomas Wilson built a grist mill there. Although the area was

sparsely settled he had customers in West Virginia as well as Maryland. (The grist mill continued with various times of remodeling until the 1940s.) His son-in-law, Ebenezer Kitzmiller, built a woolen mill in the community about 1850, and the community was named after him. (First it was Kitzmillerville, but later shortened to Kitzmiller.)

After the Civil War, the timber industry in Garrett County became the dominate industry; Kitzmiller was not an exception, and logs from the area were floated down the Potomac River to the Westernport area, where they were sawed into finished lumber. H.G. Davis, a leading business man in the industry, was one of the organizers of the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railroad. The railroad was gradually pushed up the river with sawmills established, and floating the logs down the river eventually ceased.



**Site of Thomas Wilson's grist mill.**

The railroad finally got to Kitzmiller in 1881.

Eventually, the lumber industry diminished and coal mining replaced it as a source of work for the residents of the area. The first coal was shipped out of Kitzmiller by railroad in 1899.

By 1905 there were coal mines in Maryland and West Virginia providing work for hundreds of men in the area. Coal mining became the major industry for the area.

Business was booming, but leading citizens recognized that two major ingredients were lacking in the town to give business a proper direction: an organized mayor and town council and a town post office. Citizens and the office workers of big coal companies were still getting their mail across the river in Blaine, West Virginia. Thus, in 1906, an act of the Maryland Legislature incorporated

the town of Kitzmiller, and the U.S. Government established a post office in the town. . . . and a hundred years ago, the town of Kitzmiller was given a legal status.

#### COMMENT

In 1991 – 1992, Garrett College organized a program known as “Coal Talks.” Its purpose was to collect oral history of the various mining commu-

nities around Garrett County prior to 1940. One of the dominant expressions concerning towns like Kitzmiller was, “It was a great place to live!”

The expression for Kitzmiller must be true, because of all the vicissitudes visited on the townspeople through the years, they still say, “It is a great place to live.”

## *Treasurer's Annual Report Garrett County Historical Society*

*May 31, 2005, to May 31, 2006*

Balance: Checking Account May 31, 2005 .....	\$ 1,940.96
Receipts.....	67,013.10
Subtotal.....	68,954.06
Disbursements.....	67,538.70
Net Balance As Of: May 31, 2006.....	1,415.36
Balance: Savings Account May 31, 2005 .....	20,781.24
Receipts (Plus Interest) .....	4,051.87
Subtotal.....	\$24,833.11
Disbursements.....	\$14,000.00
Net Balance As Of: May 31, 2006.....	\$10,833.11
Other Funds On Deposit	
CD, First United Bank .....	\$ 1,000.00
Total Funds on Deposit As Of: May 31, 2006.....	\$13,248.47

*Respectfully Submitted, Kevin E. Callis, Treasurer*

# *The Garrett County Historical Society Salutes 100 Years of Forestry and State Parks in Maryland*

*by Ross Kimmel and Wm. Offutt Johnson*

## INTRODUCTION

This is the second in a 3-part series covering the first 100 years of Forestry and State Parks in Maryland.

Your society wanted to do these articles because Maryland Forestry and State Park efforts were started and influenced by people associated with

Garrett County. Maryland was the third U.S. state to establish a forestry program and hire a "State Forester." It all got started here in Garrett County, and that in itself is something worth celebrating.

Our first Centennial article appeared in the June 2006 issue of *The Glades Star* and covered the 1906 forestry legislation written and sponsored by Garrett County Senator W. McCulloh Brown and also the gift of the Garrett State Forest by John and Robert Garrett of Baltimore and Deer Park. It further detailed the start of scientific forestry practices including the State forest tree nurseries.



Maryland Forestry and Parks  
**CENTENNIAL**  
**1906-2006**

*Celebrating a Century of Conservation and Recreation*

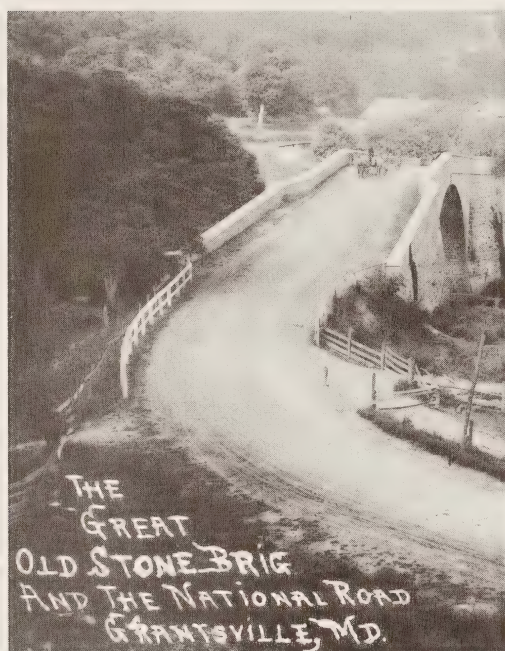
This issue will focus on establishing and advancing Maryland State parks and their valuable legacy to Marylanders and tourists. The third and final article will cover forest fire control and woodland protection, and recognize those who worked in Alle-

gany and Garrett counties to advance forestry and State park programs. It is these individuals who helped inspire this past century of conservation and recreation in Maryland. So return with us now to those treeless days of 1906, and let's retrace the advancement of Maryland's State parks. It is a legacy we enjoy living with.

## AUTHORS' OBSERVATIONS

Maryland may have been the only state that placed forestry and parks into the same government department. Though both are concerned with forest and water conservation and outdoor recreation, there are other professional differences between the two professions that are in direct opposition and create conflicts ac-





cording to the good taste, practice and principle of both forestry and park management practices.

Usually in government, forestry is partnered with the agriculture agency since its chief objective is to provide crops of wood and wood by-products on a sustained yield basis. Forests are a renewable resource providing for a wide variety of human needs. Park management, however, is focused on preservation of woodlands and not harvesting them for human needs. Park management is also interested in preservation and interpretation of unique places of historical and natural significance, state and national historic sites, and natural wonders.

Yet, there are some exceptions and overlap between these two professions to provide prudent management when differing situations arise. One

example is when park managers use a forestry practice to do controlled burns to reduce wildfire hazards, and another is when foresters use a park practice to set aside "wild lands" and "wilderness" natural areas within state and national forests to preserve pristine natural areas.

So what guided Maryland to ignore professional dictates and combine its forest and park efforts into one government department? We see two reasons: (1) cost savings and (2) providing recreation areas (parks) is a by-product of the "multiple-use" forest management

theory. That theory says the forester manages the forest to provide wood, but while the wood is growing, the forest can also manage to provide fish and wildlife habitat, water conservation, range land, aesthetics, and recreation opportunities.

Maryland's first state forester, Fred Besley, was a 1906 pioneer starting the third state forestry program. He was inventing forestry at the state level and setting new trends. Besley believed in and practiced the multiple-use management method of forestry. At the time, Maryland was struggling just to keep the Forestry Board funded. The State could not afford two conservation departments. Since the multiple-use forest management theory provided for recreation areas, then let the foresters also do the parks—two



**Engineering drawing of Point Lookout Park, from a 1976 publication *Maryland's Bicentennial Parks*.**

conservation programs for the price of one—what a great deal! Further, the 1906 Forestry Act authorized “protection and improvement of state parks and forest reserves.”

Fred Besley’s objectives were prioritized: (1) reduce and control forest fires, (2) inventory the forest land statewide, (3) establish a tree nursery, (4) build a staff and a budget, and (5) study up on the emerging demand and public interest in providing state parks. He attended national meetings on the need for state parks. Yet he stayed focused on the urgent need for reforestation because Maryland’s forest lands were in crisis. But, as the six state forest reserves began to recover and grow trees could not some of these forest lands become public parks or “forest recreation areas,” as Besley called them? Under the Multiple Use Forest Management Theory, he was duty bound to follow that plan of

action. So, from the very beginning in 1906, Maryland’s state park system grew out of state forest management in response to public demand for outdoor recreational opportunities. However, parks would come slowly. Growing and protecting forests must be priority number 1.

In addition to the forestry initiative, other major influences over the growth of state parks included: facility development by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s; the unprecedented growth in public prosperity and leisure time after World War II; and the availability of Program Open Space and Land and Water Conservation Funds to supplement State Capital Funds for acquisition and improvements for public enjoyment.

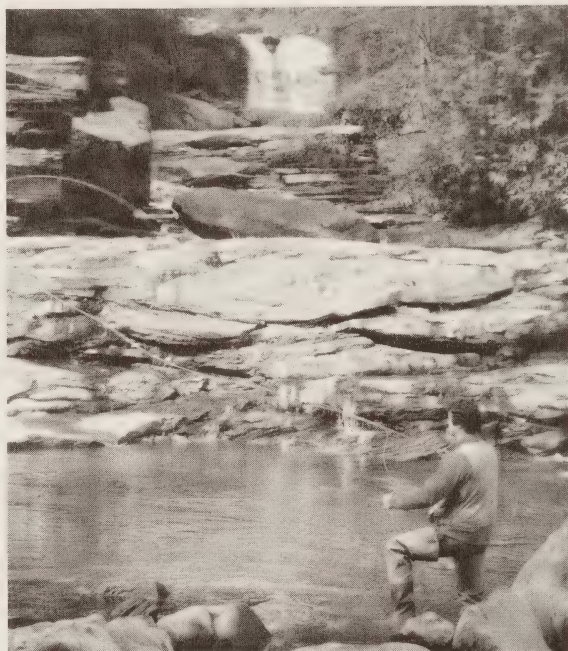
#### **EARLY EXPANSION OF MARYLAND STATE PARKS**

As we hike the trail of Maryland’s evolving system of state parks, we



return to 1907 Catonsville in Baltimore County. The State Board of Forestry has just received its second donation of land from an associate of Robert Garrett, who gave the Board of Forestry its first donation of land in Garrett County. Mr. Garrett's friend is John M. Glenn, a prominent attorney, General Director of the Russell Sage Foundation, Trustee of the Johns Hopkins University Hospital, and a founding member of the Municipal Arts Society in Baltimore City.

John Glenn owns a large Patapsco River estate south of Catonsville. Today Glenn's Manor house is the Administration Building for Catonsville Community College. Mr. Glenn and Mr. Garrett are associated through membership in Baltimore's "Municipal Arts Society," which worked to beautify Baltimore with parks, a water and sewer system, and new planned neighborhoods. A master plan by the Olmstead Architects of New York's Central Park fame proposes a stream valley park from rural Baltimore County right on down the Patapsco River into the Baltimore Harbor. John Glenn got the project started with a gift of 43 acres to the State Board of Forestry, a part of his



**Unique view of Muddy Creek Falls from an article on trout fishing in the Spring, 1988 issue of *Maryland Magazine***

Catonsville estate. The land slopes steeply to the edge of the Patapsco River, a place already frequented by city folks for picnics and swims on hot summer days.

To secure the additional lands, Besley assembled a cadre of supporters to testify before the Maryland General Assembly in February 1912. These key allies included State Senator Carville D. Benson, State Geologist William Bullock Clark, former State Senator William McCulloh Brown, bankers Robert Garrett and De Courcy W. Thorn, and the President of the Baltimore City Park Board, George Weems Williams. All of these men were members of Baltimore's economic elite. (Senator Brown win-





**Wye Oak before the fall. The largest oak in the United States and Maryland's smallest park at 1.5 acres. The photo is from a 1950s publication called *Your Maryland Vacation*. The champion oak fell in a storm on June 6, 2002.**

tered in Baltimore and summered in Garrett County.) Besley requested a \$25,000 appropriation to purchase property fronting the Patapsco River to expand the reserve. Other bills presented to the legislature included requests to increase the Board's annual operating budget, to publish Forestry Board's forest resource surveys, to establish a (forest tree) nursery at College Park, and to purchase Fort Frederick in Washington County. To further advance the cause, Besley presented an illustrated lecture on

the benefits of scientific forestry to the Maryland House of Delegates on March 12.

In the end, the case forwarded by Besley and urban allies proved compelling. The Board of Forestry's annual operating budget more than doubled in 1913, plus it received special appropriations to publish its surveys, establish a nursery at College Park, and purchase Fort Frederick. The budget for purchasing Patapsco Valley property was set at \$50,000—twice the appropriation requested. With the cooperation of the Municipal Art Society secured, Besley could now turn to the business of (extending or increasing) the Patapsco Forest Reserve—one parcel at a time.

In 1922, the state purchased another forest reserve/park (it's called both in early records). It was Fort Frederick, a ruined relic of the French and Indian War, which historic preservationists wanted protected and restored by the state. Now a 600-acre state park, with the partially restored fort, Fort Frederick annually serves 127,000 visitors, especially history lovers.

Maryland's State forest land acquisition continued apace, and along

with it, public expectation of recreational use of public forest preserves. Stephan Ting Mather, the first director of the National Park Service, was a strong advocate of systems of state parks to supplement the burgeoning system of national parks. Fred Besley routinely recognized the need for state parks in his forestry work. In 1923, Governor Albert C. Ritchie overhauled the state's unwieldy system of 85 independent boards and commissions, such as the Board of Forestry, reducing them to 14. Forestry, in the form of a five-man

forestry advisory board, was placed under the auspices of the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland, because that body was regarded as non-political (Besley fought hard to keep politics out of forestry), and because Besley was teaching forestry at the University. Besley and his growing and respected staff became the Department of Forestry, charged with executing the forestry policies of the Board of Regents, acting on advice from the forestry advisory board.

This arrangement continued satisfactorily until 1936 when H.C. "Curly" Byrd assumed the presidency of the University. Dedicated to building a first class institution, and with

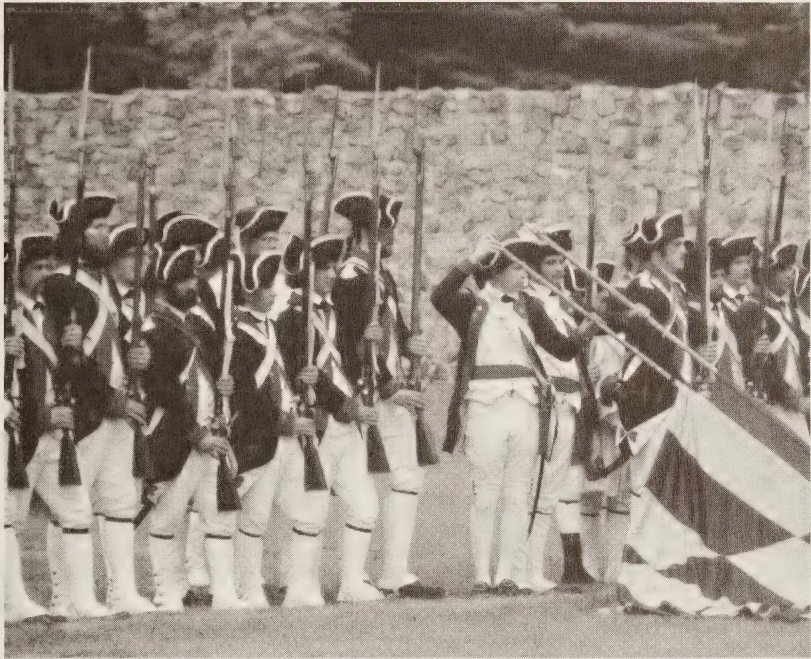


**Cross-country skiing in New Germany State Park. A Frank B. Lawson Jr. photograph from *Maryland Magazine*, Winter 1972.**

little interest in forestry, Byrd expropriated the Department's budget for other uses, and ordered Besley and his staff to relocate from Baltimore to the University, where Byrd could exercise close control. The advisory board resigned in protest, and the whole issue became a hot political one in the state. Besley refused to relocate. Appeals were made to Governor Herbert R. O'Connor and the Board of Public Works. Finally, the legislature provided relief in 1941 by consolidating all state conservation agencies, including forestry, under a new Board of Natural Resources, totally independent of the University.

The 1941 law took cognizance of





**Re-enactment group 1st Maryland Regiment at Fort Frederick. Photo from *Maryland Magazine*, Summer 1975.**

the emergence of parks in forests. It recast the old forestry department as the Department of State Forests and Parks. Besley, 70 years old and retired, was succeeded in 1942 by Joseph F. Kaylor, another trained forester, who was appointed "Director of State Forests and Parks." Kaylor was a strong advocate of stream valley state parks like Patapsco and Gunpowder. His assistant, forester H.C. Buckingham, worked avidly during the 1930s to fund the development of recreation areas within forest reserves in Garrett County, especially at New Germany and Herrington Manor. Still, even though parks now had official parity with forests, the forestry agenda would dominate for two more decades.

By the early '40s, considerable

Maryland public forest lands had been developed for recreational use as parks, thanks to the Civilian Conservation Corps (see *The Glades Star*, September 2004). The CCC was a massive Federal works program during the Great Depression. In Maryland, the CCC put a total of 30,000 young men to work reclaiming natural resources and building facilities for public use. The CCC built lakes, cabins, pavilions, trails, campgrounds and other visitor amenities all over the state, though principally in western Maryland. The CCC also restored Fort Frederick's wall and reconstructed the Washington Monument (originally built in 1827) near Boonsboro. Herrington Manor, Swallow Falls, New Germany, Washington Monument, Gambrill,



Fort Frederick, Patapsco, Elk Neck, and Pocomoke State Parks were the primary beneficiaries of CCC park development, and in fact, most of the CCC-built facilities are still in use across Maryland's state forests and parks.

The Great Depression and World War II deferred public benefit from this largess, but in the late 1940s and 1950s, with the return of prosperity, and a newly mobile American public (cars, roads, leisure time, increased income), there was a boom in public demand for outdoor recreation.

The Department of State Forests and Parks tried to respond. In 1954 it created the position of Superintendent of State Parks and filled the position with a landscape architect named William R. Hall, who was succeeded in 1956 by William A. Parr, another forester. In addition, there was a major commitment to expand state park lands. Patapsco Forest Reserve was rededicated in its entirety as a state park. Sandy Point, on the Bay, and Cunningham Falls, at Catocin Mountain, were established as state parks. Restricted budgets held back the fast advancement of parks which were trying to play "catch-up ball." The momentum of the forestry programs, however, were still very strong because they had enjoyed 50 years of steady growth, were assisted with federal funding and were being celebrated for their 50 years of notable accomplishments. The new state park efforts needed to build public backing and legislative support both in Annapolis and in Washington, D.C. It

would not take long because a special commission on Maryland state parks provided some of the needed support locally and the Rockefeller Outdoor Recreation Review Commission demonstrated nationally that parks were in short supply in every state. Demand for public recreation opportunities had jumped way ahead of supply. A new conservation land crisis was upon us!

The recommendations of the 1960 State Commission emphasized park development. In 1962, Governor J. Millard Tawes established separate divisions of forests and parks within the department. Spencer Ellis, a trained park professional and landscape architect, was named director of the entire department. Mr. Ellis appointed A.J. Pickall, and Pickall's immediate successor, William H. Johnson, both former Maryland district foresters, as superintendent of state parks. So from the early 1960s on, state parks were to begin a 45 year active period of acquisition and development.

*Note: For 15 years, William H. Johnson was the western Maryland District Forester which included Garrett County. He began his career at the Swallow Falls CCC Camp. He is the father of Offutt Johnson, one of the authors of these Centennial articles.*

At the same time, President Lyndon Johnson pronounced the 1960s as the age of "Guns and Butter." Government, through activist policies and massive taxation, could and should tend to all manner of social needs, in addition to providing traditional



services such as national defense. Among the various social needs was Rockefeller's Outdoor Recreation Resource Review Commission, which concluded that federal and state authorities were failing to meet the public's demand for outdoor recreational opportunities. Mechanisms were accordingly established to funnel massive federal aid to states for this purpose through the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Under the direction of Spencer Ellis, the Maryland Division of State Parks built a large staff of young, professional park planners to prepare a bold new program of state park land acquisition and capital development. Master plans tumbled forth proposing golf courses, swimming pools, lodges, visitor centers, amphitheaters, and other ambitious amenities. The

Maryland Outdoor Recreation Land Loan Act of 1969, known as "Program Open Space" (POS), along with Federal aid, made possible accelerated park acquisition, but there was never a concomitant commitment of funding for facility development of—and especially for—operation and maintenance.

The Land Loan Act of 1969 imposed a one-half of one percent tax on all real estate title transfers in Maryland, with the proceeds dedicated to the acquisition and development of parklands. Half the money was retained at the state level for land acquisition only, and the other half went to counties and municipalities, which could use their share for both acquisition and development. A state agency called Program Open Space handled acquisition for the state and

parceled out the local governments' shares. Additional matching funds from the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation through the Land and Water Conservation Fund vastly increased the funds to purchase and develop both state and local parks.

In its first twenty years, Program Open Space added nearly 60,000 acres to Maryland's state park holdings, a 57% increase. POS was reauthorized in 1989, and is yet augmenting state park holdings, though since the Reagan years, federal matches have dropped off precipitously (there have been no Federal appropriations for the past eleven years). While POS has been wildly successful in saving natural lands from loss due to commercial and residential development, park land acquisition is well out ahead of park facility development, and park operation and maintenance. The legislature fully funded five of the ambitious master plans of the 1960s (Point Lookout, Cunningham Falls, Greenbrier, Elk Neck, and Deep Creek Lake State Parks), others were only partially funded, and many not at all. Moreover, the sizes of park staffs and operation budgets have never been equal to the task of running and maintaining the parks. Recently the maintenance and operation disparity widened when over 100 state park rangers were transferred to the Natural Resources Police Force. Over time the ranger positions will be backfilled, but in the meantime, park operations are strained while visitation grows.

Meantime, state government

continued to shuffle and reshuffle the bureaucratic machinery that administered parks. In 1969, Governor Marvin Mandel adopted a cabinet form of government for the state and established today's Department of Natural Resources, with a cabinet level Secretary to report to him (former Governor J. Millard Tawes was the first Secretary of Natural Resources). Once again, all of the state's disparate natural resources management entities were consolidated under the new DNR. The functions of the old Department of State Forests and Parks were subsumed under DNR, and in 1972, those functions were split into three distinct agencies—the Maryland Forest Service, the Maryland Park Service (with Bill Parr once again in charge of parks), and the Capital Programs Administration, which handled capital acquisition (including Program Open Space) and capital development.

Upon the retirements of the directors of forests and parks, about 1978, the two agencies were united under Donald E. MacLauchlan, Bill Parr's assistant director of parks, but a trained forester. Eventually, DNR's wildlife component was added, but the arrangement proved unwieldy. After MacLauchlan's retirement in 1991, wildlife and cooperative forestry were split out of the park equation, with parks and state forests kept together as DNR's public lands entity under Rick Barton. In 2005, State Forest Management was transferred back to cooperative forestry from the Forest and Park Service. Steve Koehn, State



Forester, presently directs the Forest Service and Rick Barton is Superintendent of State Parks.

Today, Maryland's state parks, natural resources areas, and natural environmental areas number 84 and comprise over 133,874 acres of public land. These include 789 miles of trails and waterways, 131 cabins, and 2,545 campsites, which are cared for by 199 full-time and 400 seasonal employees and over 6,600 volunteers who contribute more than 182,000 hours of work each year. An estimated 11,500,000 people—day users, campers, cabin occupants—visit these areas each year and they produce a revenue of \$15,000,000. The budget and staffing coverage is bursting at the seams trying to contain all the management responsibilities within the state park system. But the park service takes fierce pride in these resources and the service's obligation to do right by them. The future is up to each Maryland citizen to help nurture and enjoy Maryland state parks, continuing the legacy for future generations and for the next 100 years.

*Ed. Note: The third and final article in this three-part series will cover forest*

*fire control and woodland protection. It will further recognize how the forest and park staff for Garrett and Allegany Counties helped inspire and administer*

*the evolution of this*

*successful system of Maryland state forests and parks. It*

*is the goal of the Historical Society to bring together all three articles plus information that could*

*not be included in The Glades Star format because of space limitations in a single publication.*

*Ross Kimmel is the Chief Historian for the Maryland Park Service and Director of Cultural Resources. Offutt Johnson is retired from the Department of Natural Resources, where he served as Assistant Director of Program Open Space and as a Park Naturalist/Historian at Patapsco Valley State Park. Both Kimmel and Johnson have been very active in the planning, funding, and staging of the Forestry and State Park Centennial. They both greatly appreciate the interest of the Garrett County Historical Society in helping to interpret the Maryland Forestry and Park Centennial story*



# *A Connection Between Two Colonial Trails*

*by John A. Grant*

Several years ago, an elderly gentleman from the Grantsville area was talking to me about George Washington's last trip into this area; it was in 1784. He said, "I don't think that Washington went all the way to Wheeling to get on the McCulloch Path when he concluded his business in Pennsylvania.

There must have been a connecting path, perhaps several of them, between the two; do you know of a connection?"

His question became one of those nagging ones that bothers a person off and on for years. For a long time I looked for some written material that recorded a clue where such a path would be but couldn't find any.

McCulloch's Pack Horse Path ran through the southern part of Garrett County. It was cut out around 1769 by Samuel McCulloch and members of the Zane family. It generally followed the route of the Great War Path of the Indians, and extended from the South Branch of the Potomac River near Moorefield to the Ohio River at



**Monument marking location of Fort Morris.**

Wheeling.

McCulloch's Path was one of two pack horse paths across Garrett County, the other one being Nemaquin's Path that ran from Cumberland to Brownsville on the Ohio River. General Braddock's engineers followed the general route of the Nemaquin Path when they built the Braddock Road in 1755.

During Colonial Times, pack horse paths were common in many parts of the Colonies for traders to take merchandise from East Coast cities to settlers on the western edges of the Colonies and returning eastward again with furs and Indian products.

George Washington was familiar with both the Nemaquin Path (later

Braddock's Road) and the McCulloch Pack Horse Path. On his last trip to this general area in 1784, he went to Pennsylvania on the Braddock Road and returned to Virginia on the McCulloch Path. His trip is well documented from his diary. He last traveled through Garrett County in September 1784.

Places which Washington noted in his diary were clearly identified by local historians when the diaries became available to the public in the 1930s.

In the month of May this year I saw some material from Washington's diary which I had never seen before. Washington was noting a route that started at Cheat River and ended on Braddock Road. It was a little vague to me until I saw the word, "Spurgons,"

that led to an answer that the elderly gentleman had asked me some years before.

Wiley in his book *The History Of Preston County* wrote about an old road that went through the north-eastern corner of Preston County, and in the writing he included the name "Spurgons." Colonial Fort Morris was in this same area, and a trail which passed Ft. Morris could have been a connection between Braddock's Road and McCulloch's Pack Horse Path.

And so, an answer to the nagging question could have been the Colonial trail which Wiley wrote about in his book. Is it the one which Washington used in 1784? Who knows? Perhaps one more clue will surface which will give a more satisfactory answer.

## *Binding Of Volume 10*

The December 2005 issue of *The Glades Star* marked the completion of Volume 10 of the magazine. Begun in March 2003 the bound volume will contain over 400 pages.

Copies of the Volume 10 have been set aside for the purpose of binding this fall and they will be offered for sale in time for Christmas this year if all goes as planned. The price for the bound copies of Volume 10 will be \$40.00.

As in the past, members of the Historical Society may have their individual copies of *The Glades Star* bound at the same time. Final price for this binding will be \$20.00.

Members who want their personal copies bound at this same time are asked to tie their copies into a small bundle and bring them to the Museum in Oakland sometime during the last week in September of this year. Please note that Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. week days during September.



# *My Recollections of the Children's Home in Grantsville, Maryland*

*by William H. Davis*



**The Orphans' Home or Children's Home where Goodwill Mennonite Home is today. Photo by Leo G. Beachy.**

In 1928, I was placed in the Amish Mennonite Children's Home near Grantsville, Maryland, along with my younger sister, Pearl. I was seven years old at the time.

Our family was rather poor, and after the death of my mother we were not well cared for, so my grandfather evidently felt that we would be better off in the Home and he arranged for the admission of the two of us. There were four more in the family.

This was quite an adjustment for my sister and me, as the boys and girls were separated and rarely played

together. I went to elementary school for six years at the Strawberry Hill School, just a short walk from the Home. It was a small two room school that had several teachers. I remember a Miss Powers who was a teacher there for several years and a Mr. Robertson for one year. There were others but I can't recall their names.

We went to Maple Glen Church for Sunday School and church services. In 1933, I was awarded the New Testament by teacher Harvey Yoder for memorizing 40 text verses.

At the Home, I helped out in



**Rear view of the Orphans' Home. Photo by Leo G. Beachy.**

the kitchen washing dishes and other chores. I was friendly with the other children—Joe & Amy Dolan, Mamie Butler, who worked in the kitchen quite a bit (somewhat older than me) and Daniel Puffinberger and Raymond Yoder, a neighborhood youngster. They called me Billy at the Home and later on by the Hershberger family.

While the discipline was rather strict, when I look back now I feel that it was beneficial to me. I was fortunate to have been a resident there because of the guidance provided by the people there as well as other various Conservative families later on. In the early spring of 1934, four members of the Maple Glen Conservative Church were going to Iowa for a church conference. I was told that they were taking me along. If a family in Iowa would accept me into their family, I could stay in Iowa

or if not, then I would come back to the Children's Home.

Elmer and Fannie Hershberger accepted me into their home in Iowa and were like a mother and father to me. They were originally from Maryland and Pennsylvania area, and later moved back to the area. A Mr. Menno Miller had been designated as my guardian, I assume by the Conservative Home. He placed me with other families after my stay with the Hershberger family.

I have stayed in touch with the Hershbergers over these many years, and as recently as June, 2006 I visited Fannie Hershberger in the Goodwill Mennonite Home on the grounds of the Amish Mennonite Home.

There have been reunions of the children from the Home, and my wife and I and our children have attended several of them, held at Maple Glen.

# *"Band Wagon"*

*by John A. Grant*



**Ray Miller's long carriage.**

"Jump on the Band Wagon!" It's a phrase that will be heard this fall now that mid-term elections are scheduled. It depicts the actions of a politician who wants to align himself with what he thinks will be the winning political faction.

"Band Wagon" paints an imaginary picture of a political rally with a brass band, sitting in a horse drawn wagon, playing a Sousa march, while political candidates are either walking beside it or riding on it and waving to the crowds. Perhaps it could have been in a torch light parade; the "band wagon" was a part of the political scene for almost 75 years beginning in the 1860s.

The idea of a "band wagon" probably started in the 1850s with a traveling circus which put on a parade through a town to drum up business for the performance later in the day or evening. A brightly decorated circus

wagon with the circus band playing the latest popular march would be making music "full-blast" somewhere in the parade with clowns cavorting behind it as it went through the town's streets.

The closest thing we have to a band wagon today in the Oakland area is the long passenger carriage owned by Ray Miller. It can be seen in town in the summer months on "Wonderful Wednesdays" when rides are offered as part of the town's Wednesday program. However, there was a recent time when it had a Governor of Maryland as a passenger.

On August 24, 2005, Governor Ehrlich was a passenger in Ray Miller's carriage in a parade down Second Street in Oakland. The carriage was preceded by the Young Marines Color Guard and the Southern High School Marching Band. The short parade ended at the Railroad station where



the Governor was welcomed by local officials.

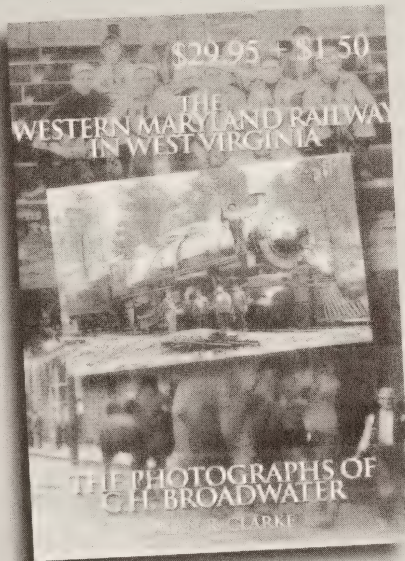
At least Governor Ehrlich's ride in Oakland was more dignified and peaceful than what happened to Governor Lloyd Lowndes in the 1890s when he visited a political rally at Grantsville.

The Band Wagon was drawn up on the edge of town surrounded by various political dignitaries waiting for the parade to start. One of the band members was sitting on a feather cushion and a fellow band member yanked it from underneath of him. A "tug of war" resulted and soon most of the band members were involved in it. The "tug of war" spilled out of the band wagon, and ended with other people being hit over the head with the feather cushion.

Soon, even some of the dignitaries got involved with hitting someone

over the head with the cushion. One of the band members captured the cushion and hit a dignitary over the head whose back was turned to him. At that point the cushion broke and feathers went all over the dignitary. The startled dignitary turned around and the band member was astounded to find that he was facing none other than Governor Lowndes. The Governor was a good sport, he grabbed the remains of the cushion and hit the offending band member with it. Then, everyone started laughing and the rowdiness ended.

About this time the Parade Marshal called everyone to order, and the political parade started through Grantsville. However, instead of rather stern looking dignitaries, all of them had a big smile on their faces ... some were even laughing ... including the Governor.



## **The Western Maryland Railway in West Virginia**

by Alan R. Clarke

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Publication

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Museum Bookstore

# *Annual Society Meeting*

*by John Grant*



**Gretchen Shaffer and Helen Heath check in members and friends at the Annual Meeting.**

As part of a long standing tradition, 104 members and friends of the Garrett Historical Society attended the Annual Banquet/Business Meeting at the Bittinger Community Center on Thursday evening, June 29, 2006.

President Robert Boal opened the meeting by recognizing some of the guests who were present. In addition he also made several short announcements. Then he asked the Rev. John Grant to give the invocation, after which the Women's Auxiliary of the

Bittinger Fire Department served a delicious meal.

When the meal was finished, Pres. Boal began the business part of the Annual Meeting. A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report; a voice vote by the audience consented to the motion. Next, the names of people to fill certain offices were presented: Mike Van Buskirk to replace resigned member of the Advisory Board, "Bud" Peed and Helen Heath to replace resigned





**Mr. and Mrs. Eary at the Annual Meeting.**

Corresponding Secretary Kenneth Hardesty. The two nominations were accepted by a voice vote from the audience.

Pres. Boal gave a few introductory remarks concerning Mrs. Alice Eary, who was to be speaker for the evening. Her topic was One Room Schools in Garrett County.

Back in April, at the Society's Fund Raising Dinner, Mrs. Eary had been the speaker for the evening's program, and she had talked from her manuscript about one room schools. (See p. 68, June 2006, *The Glades Star*.) The dinner was at the Pleasant Valley Community Center, located in the southern section of Garrett County, so one room schools in that area dominated the topic of her talk. Since Bittinger was located more to the northern part of the County, one

room schools in that area dominated her talk.

Mrs. Eary had photographs of the various schools she chose to speak about; they had been put on slides and were projected on a screen as she talked about each one of them. Not only did she talk about the school building itself, she had a series of anecdotes about many of them. Included in her talk was an amusing publication that listed the requirements to hold a teaching position in one of the schools.

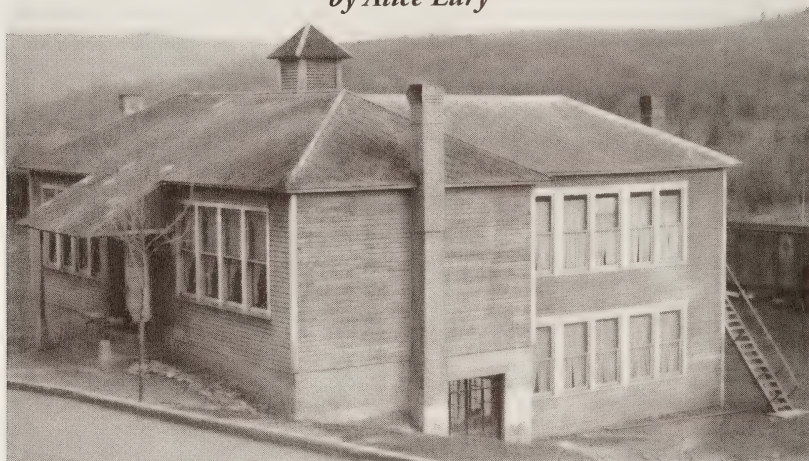
Following the talk, Pres. Boal presented Mrs. Eary with an older bound volume of *The Glades Star* to complete her set of bound copies of the magazine.

After several other business items, Pres. Boal adjourned the meeting about 8:20 p.m.



# *Yesteryear, A History of Garrett County Schools*

*by Alice Eary*



**School in company-owned Kempton.**

**I**t all began in 1993 when the Yesteryear Heritage Festival to be held the following year at Garrett Community College (now Garrett College) was in the planning stage. Creating an exhibit depicting the history of Garrett County Schools appeared to be a relatively easy task, so I joined Barbara Flinn and Jean Grose on the committee representing Delta Kappa Gamma. Jean and I agreed to do the research. The project was well received and we repeated the activity in 1995.

Once the exhibits were over, I continued the research. I was addicted. A God-driven urge propelled me on, and during the next 12 years the compulsive drive took me into libraries, museums, court houses, boards of education, and private

homes. Sources of information included Board of Education minutes, newspapers, microfilm, maps, deeds and interviews. Research took place in Garrett and Allegany Counties and Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland. No single source of information on the schools existed.

Obstacles were numerous. The process of gathering information and putting it together was much like assembling a huge jigsaw puzzle, with numerous pieces missing, some never to be found. The more pieces in place, the easier the puzzle became. The completed picture represents an overview of the growth of Garrett County's educational system from its infancy to the end of the one-room school era.

The office of the Board of Edu-



**Mountain Lake Park School.**

cation seemed to be the most logical place for information. However, in 1943, the Board of Education of Garrett County had given its approval for all unbound records that were more than ten years old to be destroyed. (Minutes, May 11, 1943, 283.) Fortunately the minutes, except for two years from December 1883, through 1885, were among the records which survived. Also, some pictures were preserved, including those taken in 1924 by Marion Henion, Supervising Teacher of one room schools in the Friendsville Area.

Because it was fairly common for early communities to undergo name changes, many names were unrecognized until some clue revealed their identity. Adding to the dilemma was the fact that much of the time, official records used only numbers for the schools. Each school was identified by two numbers, one representing the district and the other the school. In some instances, the numbers changed frequently.

The relocation of highways and the construction of the Deep Creek Lake brought about changes which made it difficult to be precise about school locations.

One major asset was the articles which appeared in early newspapers. Correspondents from all over the county mailed letters to be printed in the Oakland papers. They gave pictures of schools as they actually were. Unfortunately, because of their locations, some districts were not covered very thoroughly and some not at all. Those areas include the schools near the Pennsylvania state line and those around Bloomington.

*Yesteryear, A History of Garrett County Schools* has something for everyone, and especially for genealogists. It profiles more than 200 Garrett County schools prior to 1872 to the time of their closings, and it contains thousands of individual names of people in roles of administrators, teachers, trustees, parents and students.

# 2006 Accessions

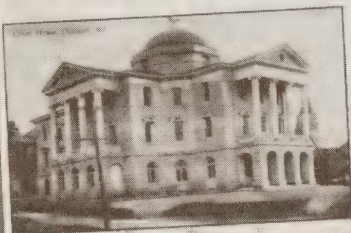
January 1, 2006 - June 30, 2006

- 1920 Picture of the Red House Elementary School, Oakland Pharmacy  
wintergreen oil bottle.....*gifts from Wilda Sanders*  
1890s fur muff belonged to Ellen Porter.....*gift from Colleen Barnard*  
Two white B&O Railroad insulators .....*gifts from Kevin Lowery*  
Red House School souvenir booklet, given in memory of Evelyn Wolfe Myers; 4  
Garrett County postcards.....*gifts from Neil Wolfe*  
1911 Kitzmiller School picture,  
1915 Kitzmiller School picture .....*gifts from Nancy Biggs*  
1899 Helbig Brothers receipt.....*gift from Janice Judy*  
Picture of Pickwick Inn .....*gift from Gretchen Briner Shaffer*  
1949 Oakland Centennial B&O Magazine .....*gift from Bob Shaffer*  
Large assortment of historical and  
genealogical books .....*gifts from Mary V. Jones*  
Smoking pipe holder and 13 pipes .....*gift from Fred Thayer*  
Two antler candle holders,  
Antique slaw cutter .....*gifts from Fred and Diane Thayer*  
4 pictures of the Fernleigh Cottage in Mtn. Lake Park.....*gifts from Ron Metz*  
Two feather pillows, belonging to  
Alma White Beckman.....*gifts from Juanita Beckman Browning*  
Hardesty Genealogy, The Service Song Book,  
1953-54 Oakland Telephone Directory, Board of Education Song book,  
1931 "Everyday Life" paper, valentine and  
"The Athletic Girl" postcard .....*gifts from George Ferguson*  
Chimney Corner placemat and menu.....*gifts from Donnetta Bennett*  
B&O National Limited Menu.....*gift from Scott Peacher*  
Elder Hill School Booklet, George DeWitt mining certificate,  
Deer Park tennis court postcard and a 1905 Hoye's  
Methodist Hymnal .....*gifts from Dale and Wilma Rodeheaver*  
City Roller Mills booklet.....*gift from Martha DeBerry*  
Brownie & Girl Scout booklet, 1947 Oakland High School booklet, 1960  
*Acorn*, 1960 Southern High student directory, 1999 Northern High  
*Viking*, 1960 Little Oaks booklet, 1957 Little Oaks booklet, SHS 1961,  
20th, 25th, and 30th class reunion booklets,  
9/9/52 - 11/59 *Acorns*.....*gifts from Stephanie G. Lang*  
Two old pictures found in a  
Water Street building.....*gifts from Michael V. Likar*  
Three War Ration booklets, 32 American Legion  
patches.....*gifts from Paul Shogren*  
Chessie Railroad "Ride With Clyde" booklet.....*gift from Todd Shaffer*  
9 Leo Beachy pictures, Meshach Browning Cabin  
information .....*gifts from Maxine Broadwater*  
60th Garrett County Farm Queen Booklet, hand quilted  
baby blanket .....*gifts from Nancy Berkebile*



- Picture of Paul Stockman and The Music Shop .....*gift from Ruth Stockman*  
 Picture of Bertha Nicholson, teacher at Fair Sweep, Sunnyside  
 and Red Oak ..... *gift from Howard Wensel*  
 WWI German bayonet.....*gift from Luther Parrack*  
 Oakland RR station and St. Paul's Methodist Church  
 postcards.....*gifts from Phyllis Helbig*  
 Tales of Mountain Maryland  
 book .....*gift from Potomac Appalachian Trail Club*  
 WWI Leviathan picture and description.....*gifts from Kevin Callis*  
 Pleasant View Baptist Church CD, 100th Anniversary postcard,  
 pin and booklet, (Carol Davis designed the pin and  
 postcard).....*gifts from Burt Davis*  
 WWI, USMC postcards.....*gifts from Katherine A. Wolf*  
 Two pictures of W.C. Jones of Deer Park, Crest of the Alleghanies booklet, 24  
 Mtn. Lake Park postcards, 2 Loch Lynn postcards, 26 Deer Park pictures  
 and postcards, 17 Oakland postcards, 10 Grantsville  
 postcards, 11 Deep Creek Lake postcards, 18 Holiday & Birthday  
 postcards, two 1¢ postcards. Dr. Townsend's Remedy card, and 14 Misc.  
 Garrett County postcards.....*gifts from Audra Hansen*  
 Garrett County Trivia Game ..... *loan from Frances Meese*  
 1800s coverlet, a wedding present for Sarah Beachy (Bitche)  
 Musser .....*loan from Wellington W. Welch*  
 Two 1944 Oakland High School  
*Acorns* ..... *gifts from Harrison Blaine Stewart III*  
 1915 Kitzmiller School picture, 1918 Kitzmiller High School  
 Graduation program ..... *gifts from Nancy Biggs*  
 Large cut from an apple tree from the Meshach Browning  
 property .....*gift from Troy Gnegy*  
 Charles and Theresa Wilkins picture, (they owned the Victorian bedroom  
 furniture in the museum)..... *gift from Armeda Townshend*  
 Herrington Manor House picture and  
 information .....*gift from Offutt Johnson*  
 Mining battery from the Pee Wee Mine in Kitzmiller.....*gift from Dean Sullivan*  
 1937 Jennings Store and 1937 Jennings Store and Hotel  
 pictures..... *gifts from Alice Eary*  
 Book—*Sixty Years Behind the Mast*,  
 by Sandy Douglass..... *gift from Martin Heise*  
 Numerous Flying Scot Sailboat pictures ..... *gift from Alan Douglass*  
 1895 Mountain Chautauqua Paper ..... *gift from R.W. Rodeheaver*  
 "Garrett Sporting Goods" ice scraper..... *gift from Leo McBee*  
 WWII Grass Skirt, photos of John Friend .....*gifts from Christina Howe*  
 Picture and information—Ilario (Jimmy) Fazzalari.....*gift from Ella F. Smart*  
 Primitive Garrett County bootjack.....*gift from Bob and Leanna Boal*  
 1936 Field and Track Meet booklet .....*gift from John Kisselovich*  
 Humberson Genealogy, white meat platter, Floe Blue Platter, gravy boat,  
 2 butter pats, pitcher..... *gifts from JoAnn Humberson Schrodel*

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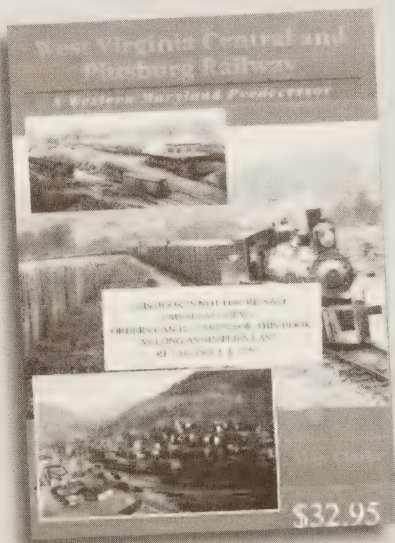


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# Flower Fund Donations

Garrett County Historical Society has established a continuous flower fund to provide seasonal flowers for Dailey Park, Gazebo, Hotel Porch and the front of the Museum. Gifts "in memory of" or "in honor of" will be acknowledged in *The Glades Star*

Warren T. Whittaker

## Memorials

Mary Filsinger Reardon

*The Monday Skirts League*

Glenn Lyons

*Mary V. Jones*

*Margaret Germain*

Joseph Welch

*Mary V. Jones*

Evelyn Ault

*Mary V. Jones*

Wilmer Crosco

*Wayne and Judy Wilt*

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*Lelia Schoch Carr*

Leona Hardesty

*Eleanor Callis*

*Anna Maxine Broadwater*

*Margaret Germain*

*Paul and Alice Eary*

*Bob and Leanna Boal*

## Application for Membership Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.

Membership fee is \$15 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of *The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only one copy each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis, from July 1 through June 30.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

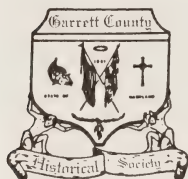
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Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, P.O. Box, 28, Oakland, MD 21550-0028





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- Dorothy Glotfelty Granger
  - Roger Felix
  - Mary V. Jones
  - Bonnie Fitzwater
  - Dr. Michael L. and Anne Wolfe
  - Edith Brock
  - Jr. Woman's Civic Club, Projects Committee
  - Marianna Naylor
  - Offutt and Joan Johnson
  - Mt. Laurel Garden Club
- 

## *Summer Museum Hours*

May 1 through December 31, 2006

Open Monday through Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## *Thank You!*

The Grantsville Community Museum of the Garrett County Historical Society wishes to thank all of those who have so generously given artifacts and other gifts to the new museum. A list of those gifts will be included in a future issue of *Glades Star*

# THE Glades Star

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VOL. 11, NO 4

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2006



Formerly the First State Bank of Grantsville.

# Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

## OFFICERS 2004-2005

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1st Vice President .....	James Ashby
2nd Vice President .....	Paul Shogren
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Cir. Manager .....	Joseph Connors

## THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

## THE GLADES STAR

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CORRESPONDENCE: Glades Star, P.O. Box 28, Oakland. MD 21550.

# Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# Hannah Gnegy— Autumn Glory Queen



Members of the Garrett County Historical Society had good reason to applaud Hannah Gnegy as Autumn Glory Queen – she is an active volunteer at the Society's Museum in Oakland. For the past six years she has volunteered after school Monday to Friday and certain days during her summer vacation.

Quite naturally, she was pleased to be chosen as "Queen," and wishes

to express her thanks to everyone who sent her congratulations.

"I am grateful for the knowledge the museum has provided for me, and am pleased to be able to share my knowledge with visitors to the area. I would also like to say thanks for all of the other people who volunteer their time and say thanks for the kindness that I have always been shown."

# *A Railroad Known As “The Dinkey Track.”*

*by John A. Grant*

Built in 1923, the “Dinkey Track” was a standard gage railroad that ran from Oakland to the breast of the impoundment dam for Deep Creek Lake. Before getting to the impoundment dam, the railroad split and a short branch followed the Youghiogeny River to the site of the Power House or hydroelectric generating station. The name “Dinkey Track” was applied because of the dinkey locomotive that pulled the railroad cars along the track. As a railroad, it only existed for ten years (1923-1933),

being torn up in 1932 – 1933 when the price of scrap iron soared because of the Japanese – Chinese War.

The railroad followed the right-of-way of the old George Browning Lumber Railroad from Oakland to the Miller’s Run marsh. Leaving the old right-of-way it headed toward the Youghiogeny River and followed it past Swallow Falls to the Deep Creek stream where it split into the two short branches. When the leaves are off the trees, a person standing at the “overlook” near Muddy Creek Falls



Near Swallow Falls the old railroad has become a hiking trail.





**The railroad ran up the No. 11 fairway on the Oakland Golf Course.**

can see where there was a sand quarry for the concrete work at the breast of the dam, the Power House and the connecting water tunnel for the hydroelectric generators.

Although it has been gone for over 70 years, traces of the railroad can still be found. A person can still see where the siding which connected it to the main line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad crossed the Oakland-Herrington Manor Road, just west of Oakland. The tracks ran right through the middle of what is now the golf course of the Oakland Golf Club. If a person knows where to look along the No. 11 Fairway, he can still see a flatness that was the old right-of-way. This same kind of flatness can also be seen in Miller's Run marsh which is now part of the Mt. Nebo Wildlife Management Area.

The Dinkey Track crossed the

County Road just upstream from Swallow Falls, and from there the right-of-way has become a hiking trail. The branch that followed Deep Creek stream is now part of the County Roads system.

For years, after all of the construction work was completed, the "dinkey" locomotive sat on a siding at the Power House. It was reconditioned and put to work again when the railroad was torn up, moving carloads of rails, tie-plates and spikes to an unloading point near Oakland. A small section of this siding can still be seen near the end of the Power House in the transformer area.

The railroad meant different things to different people. For adults, it was looked on fondly because it was a reminder of one of most enormous undertaking in Garrett County during their lifetime – the building of



Deep Creek Lake. To your author, who was a young boy, it was a visible link to all of the lure surrounding the building of the Lake; it had a unique quality about it.

Seemingly, young boys living in the Oakland area today don't hike around through the woods and fields as they did back in the 1930s and 1940s. Your author and his friends would hike up to Crooks Crest, follow the ridge line through the fields northward, then cut down through the woods to the Dinkey Track. Sometimes the hike would end there with a return to Oakland; other times, the hike would continue on to the marsh area of Miller's Run.

Hikes were varied according to the time of year. There were ski hikes during the winter to take bird feed out to birds in the marsh area followed by skiing down nearby Hall's Hill. In the spring there were hikes to see if the various spring flowers were blooming and the wet weather springs were putting out lots of water. Summertime was a time for overnight hikes with camping around a spring at the foot of Hall's Hill, near the log cabin built by "Gab" Alstetter and his friends. (The deer in the area objected to this because the spring was one of their nighttime watering holes, and the boys' campfire scared them. They would stamp their feet and snort, but were ignored by boys wrapped up in sleeping bags.)

The most memorable of all hikes took place on Sunday afternoon in 1933; seeing a train running on the Dinkey Track is what set it apart as

different from all the other hikes.

No one was aware of anything different until we started out across the fields on top of the ridge. Then, in the distance could be heard the whistle of a steam locomotive; it was a high pitched whistle rather than the deep throated whistles of the regular trains that came through Oakland.

At once, all of us said, "the Dinkey engine," and started to run toward the path that led down to the Dinkey Track. As we ran, we could hear the whistle and could tell that it was getting nearer and nearer. When we got to the track, the train wasn't in sight, but we could hear it coming.

Louder and louder grew the noise of the train, with the engine only giving a soft "push" "push" sound rather than a mighty "puff" "puff"! Finally, it came slowly around a curve not more than a hundred feet away. Seeing us standing along side of the track, the engineer blew a couple of "toots" on the whistle. We cheered and waved to the crew as the train went past. The train consisted of three or four flat cars loaded with old rails and tie plates.

Very slowly it went on toward Oakland and disappeared around another curve. We heard the whistle blow for the small crossing at the Oakland - Sang Run Road, and then all was quiet.

It was the one and only time that most of us ever saw a train running on the Dinkey Track, but we talked about it for years. . . . The memory of that afternoon still lingers in your author's mind.

# Grantsville Community Museum



Main room in Grantsville Community Museum.

"The Grantsville Community Museum wishes to thank the many donors of artifacts that have been given or loaned to the museum. Periodically the various artifacts will be acknowledged in future issues of *The Glades Star*."

This formal statement by Maxine Broadwater speaks of the enthusiasm of the people of the Grantsville community for their new museum in the former bank building located in the center of town on Rt. #40.

Two things that are apparent to a visitor who remembers the bank building before it housed the museum: The building itself has been transformed and the display rooms

within the building now look renewed. Maxine and the rest of the staff can be very proud of what has been accomplished

"We've been working hard to display the artifacts properly; there are so many of them," said Maxine. She pointed to a thick notebook in which each artifact is recorded to indicate the large number that have been contributed for display on the walls and in the cases.

In one display room many photographs by Leo Beachy line the walls and are lighted uniquely so that none are shadowed. Thus, the quality of each one can be appreciated.

The "Drive Up" window of the



**Iron cooking utensils in window.**

bank had a reasonable solution to the problem of a long window in a narrow room. A shelf was put inside the long window, and on it are displayed all manner of wrought iron kitchen utensils. The result is a pleasing display which can be viewed from inside or outside the museum.

Another room has an excellent display of memorabilia from various families in the Grantsville area. The room is also well lighted and the display of items is most interesting.

The big main room of the museum is a "must" for history buffs in search of Braddock and National Road items. An eye catching mileage marker from the National Road sits at the entrance of one of the other rooms. On it is the distance east or west to Cumberland or Wheeling, with smaller letters giving the dis-

tance to the next town on the road. Of real interest is the distance from Grantsville to Petersburg. People may say, "I didn't know there was a town called Petersburg around here." Petersburg was the original name of Addison, Pa.

On the wall above the old mileage marker is large poster advertising the annual gathering of covered wagons that travels in one train from Grantsville to Addison; top of the poster has the words "Don't Miss The Train."

Off to one side of the room is a display case of items that have been collected by Robt. Bantz from the old Braddock Road right-of-way.

However, collection of the items for display hasn't ended. Sitting in one display case is a 1940 photograph of graduating seniors from Grantsville High School. "We plan to collect





**The Beachy Room.**

as many as possible,” said Maxine. “Photographs like that contain many, many memories.”

Thus, the museum at Grantsville

is true representative of the Grantsville Community, and should bring a lot of pleasure to those who view its many artifacts on display.

## *Binding Of Glades Star Postponed*

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Unfortunately, the company which did the binding has gone out of business and the binding was delayed until another company could be found that would give an advantageous price to the members.

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# "Fighting" Bob Martin

by John Grant

"He knocked Gene Tunney clear out of the ring! He was a real champion." "He was the A.E.F. Champion." "The fighting champion of 10 million fighting men."

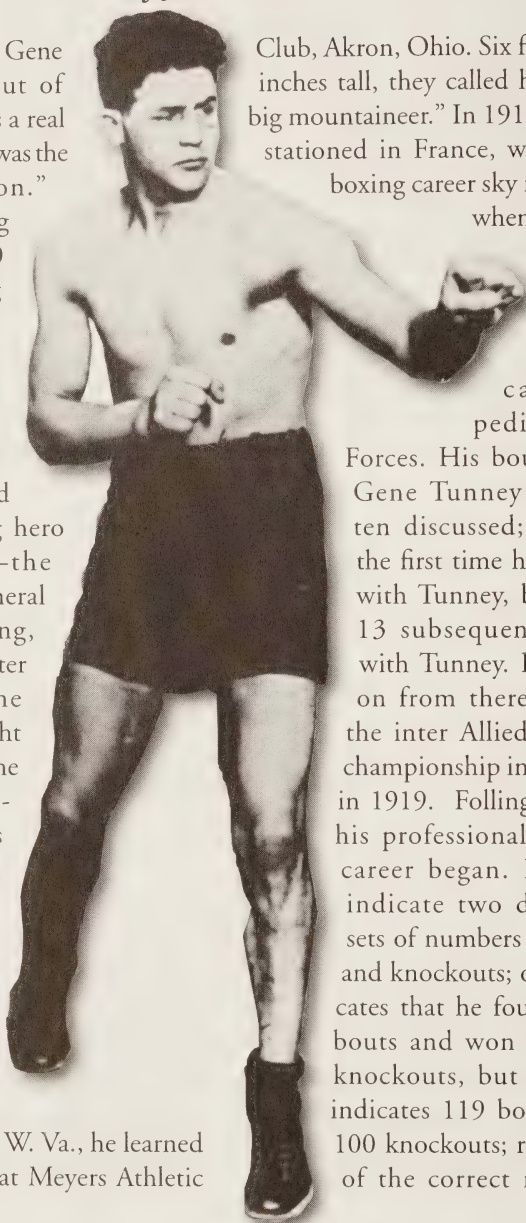
These and many more accolades describe some of the praise heaped on local boxing hero Bob Martin—the last one by General John J. Pershing, himself. This after Martin won the 1918 heavyweight boxing title of the American Expeditionary Forces in France and the 1919 title for Inter-Allied Championship.

Born on Nov. 11, 1897, in Albright, Preston County, W. Va., he learned his boxing skill at Meyers Athletic

Club, Akron, Ohio. Six foot, two inches tall, they called him "the big mountaineer." In 1918 he was stationed in France, where his boxing career sky rocketed

when became Cham-  
pion  
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peditionary

Forces. His bouts with Gene Tunney are often discussed; he lost the first time he fought with Tunney, but won 13 subsequent bouts with Tunney. He went on from there to win the inter Allied Armies championship in Europe in 1919. Following W.W.I., his professional boxing career began. Records indicate two different sets of numbers of bouts and knockouts; one indicates that he fought 100 bouts and won 87 with knockouts, but another indicates 119 bouts with 100 knockouts; regardless of the correct number,



he built an impressive record as a professional boxer.

His career began to decline around 1925 when he suffered a terrific blow to the back of his neck and sank to the floor in a bout with a man named Frank Moran. However, he recovered himself, stood up again, and won the fight by knocking out Moran; trouble was, he couldn't remember winning the fight. Then, he was injured in an automobile accident; doctors at Walter Reed Hospital gave him only a year to live, but he overcame their diagnosis by living an additional 52 years, finally passing away in September 1980 at the age of 82 years old.

However, with his professional boxing career behind him, Bob Martin did not quit; he remembered his comrades of World War I. As soon as he was able, he started on a tour on behalf of the American Legion. He toured the United States for the next few years, doing more than 40 exhibition bouts to help the sick and needy ex-servicemen.

Martin, well known to many people in Oakland, came to live in Garrett County during the 1930s; he lived on a farm in the Sunnyside area, near Red House. Your author's father pointed out Bob Martin to him on the streets of Oakland. A sports enthusiast, Martin attended many high school and college games

in this area. Always there were those people who would stop him and want to shake his hand, for all of his humanitarian work with the American Legion. Your author attended high school with two of his children, Robert and Roberta.

In his later years, Bob Martin ran a restaurant in Nitro, W. Va., where his daughter Roberta Knox was a school teacher. In failing health, he was in a nursing home in Nitro when he died on September 29, 1980. He was 82 years of age at the time. His funeral was held in Oakland at Durst Funeral Home, with the Rev. James Remley conducting the service; he is buried in Terra Alta, W. Va.

Back in 2001, Mr. Jerry Cline of Mtn. Lake Park came to the Historical Society museum with some Bob Martin memorabilia, to be displayed in one of the rooms of the museum. There were boxing gloves, dumbbells and some other items including a poster advertising one of his fights. The plan was to put these with World War I uniforms in the Military Room. For some reason, in a short time, Mr. Cline removed the memorabilia from the museum and a proper display of the Bob Martin memorabilia has never come about.

*Ed.—Much of the above material was gleaned from a scrapbook kept by Bob Martin's daughter, Martha.*



# St. Paul's U.M. Church, Oakland

Mr. Robt. F. Rodeheaver of Oakland brought to the *Glades Star* two items of interest: a pamphlet of the West Virginia Conference Epworth League Convention held at St. Paul's in Oakland between 1902 - 1904, and a Sunday School photograph taken on the steps of St. Paul's sometime between 1910 and 1920.

Of interest in the pamphlet is an engraving of St. Paul's on the outside cover as drawn by the architect, Benj. O. Price.

The photograph is one of those tantalizing

pictures showing a lot of local children who grew up to be adults in Oakland. CAN YOU NAME ANY OF THE PEOPLE IN THE PHOTOGRAPH? If you can, let us know at the *Glades Star* who they are.



Architect's Print—1902 - 04.



Same location at St. Paul's today.





# *Russia Winter Travel In 1810*

In 1810, Joseph A. Wallace of Baltimore spent the winter of 1810 – 1811 in Russia. His travel experience going from Archangel to St. Petersburg in the snow was not too different from that of travelers who went over the National Road in the 1820s; the only difference was that his coach had sled runners instead of wheels.

Wallace worked for J. Donnell, Inc., a Baltimore export/import company, as Superintendent of Cargo; he was 22 years old when he sailed to Russia. The Superintendent of Cargo's job was to stay with a cargo when it was put in a warehouse at some port city, fill Donnell customers' orders, and collect money for the sales; at the same time he purchased merchandise for Donnell customers back in Baltimore. Meanwhile the sailing ship on which he left Baltimore would sail on to another port, and then he would return to Baltimore with the new merchandise on another ship.

His adventures, etc., were recorded in letters which he sent to his mother back in Baltimore. Fortunately; many of them have been saved by the family over the years, the earliest ones are from the year

1808. Another interesting aspect of these letters, especially the ones in 1810, is the exchange of mail at sea with other ships which would carry the letters back to America; several of them went to other ports before finally arriving in Baltimore.

In 1810, it was unsafe for American ships to go through the Baltic Sea to Russia because of capture by foreign gunboats; this was due to difficulties with France over money borrowed by the U. S. during the Revolutionary War. As a result, the best Russian port for any ship from eastern United States was Archangel; it meant traveling north to the Bering Sea into the White Sea and then south to Archangel.

Joseph Wallace traveled to Archangel on the "Ann" which sailed from Baltimore on June 6, 1810, and arrived in Archangel harbor on August 7, 1810. They had to wait several days before securing a place to unload their merchandise and put it in a warehouse. The harbor was crowded with other ships because all of them had to leave Archangel early in September to prevent being caught by winter storms in the White and Bearing seas.



# Christmas Gift Ideas

## Books

<i>Civil War Glades Star</i> .....	\$3.50
<i>History of Crellin</i> .....	\$5.00
<i>Deep Creek, Past and Present</i> .....	\$10.00
<i>Deer Park, Then and Now</i> .....	\$10.00
<i>44 Years of the Life of a Hunter</i> .....	\$25.00
<i>Garrett County History</i> .....	\$25.00
<i>Garrett County 125th Anniv. Photo Album</i> .....	\$20.00
<i>Indian Camps and Other Stories</i> .....	\$5.00
<i>Once Upon a Mountain Top</i> .....	\$15.00
<i>150 Years of Oakland</i> .....	\$20.00
<i>Flowery Vale—History of Accident</i> .....	\$15.00
<i>Garrett County by Al Feldstein</i> .....	\$20.00

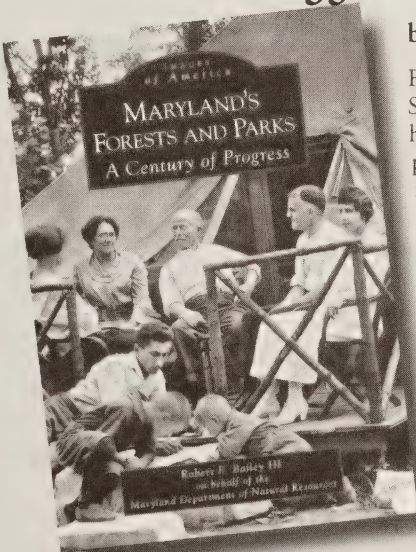
<i>The Western Maryland Railway in West Virginia</i> .....	\$30.00
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## Stocking Stuffers

<i>Be'O Mug</i> .....	\$5.00
<i>Child's RR Cap</i> .....	\$7.00
<i>Child's Metal Train</i> .....	\$5.00
<i>Civil War Rifle Pen</i> .....	\$4.00
<i>Set of 20 Civil War picture postcards</i> .....	\$4.00
<i>Ruler with pictures of all the Presidents</i> .....	\$1.00
(Md. tax is .05%)	

Consider a gift of a membership to the Garrett County Historical Society—\$15.00, which includes 4 issues of the *Glades Star*.

## Hot Off the Press



by Robert F. Bailey III

For 100 years, the Maryland State Forest and Park Service has maintained and provided public access to Maryland's most beautiful and historic places. Take a journey with state forester Fred W. Besley in his vision to protect, enhance and restore Maryland's Natural Resources for the wise use and enjoyment of all citizens.

For sale at Garrett County Historical Society Museum.

**\$19.99 + tax**

# *The First Snowfall*

*by John A. Grant*

*First Snow Fall  
The snow began in  
the glooming  
And continued  
through the night  
Covering post and  
fence rail  
With a robe of  
ermine white.*

**W**hen Win-  
ter turns to

Spring, the change is marked by a gradual rise in temperature, leaf buds appearing on trees, grass growing, and days getting longer. The same is true for the slow changes that mark the change from Spring to Summer and Summer to Fall; but not for the sudden change from Fall to Winter. This change is usually marked by and remembered by the "First Snowfall" as memorialized by the poem "The First Snowfall."

Are there any rules that mark the date of the first snowfall?

For example, there comes that day in the Fall when it is cold, black clouds move across the sky, and snow flakes are in the air. Is that day the one that becomes the date of first snowfall or do people wait for a larger accumulation of snow?

The answer depends on where a person is located in Garrett County, because different people have their own criteria for deciding what amount of snow constitutes the first snowfall.



The owner of the Green Lantern Inn on Rt. 40 near Grantsville got tired of arguments at his lunch counter about the date of the first snowfall "last year" and how much snow came down that date, so he put up a big signboard near the counter and on it marked the date of the first snowfall. He did this for a number of years, and it became quite an interesting record.

Once in a while a diner would ask what constituted the first snowfall; how much snow did it take to make the list near the counter. "When I can measure one inch of snow in a certain place," was the standard reply.

It's nice to think that the first snowfall is the beginning of accumulation of snow for sled riding and skiing, but the fact remains that when the first snowfall comes the ground is still warm and by sunset of that day all the snow has usually gone. However, that fact is established that Fall is gone and Winter has begun with this particular phenomenon of weather.

# Garrett County Communities

Selbysport is the oldest town in Garrett County. It was laid out prior to 1798 by Peter Devecmon near the Youghiogheny River. It was hoped the river would be navigable up to that point. It was named for Captain Evan Selby, a Maryland Ranger who distinguished himself in expeditions against the Indians under Braddock and Washington in 1758. When the Youghiogheny Flood Control project was completed in 1947, most of the houses were removed and the area flooded.

Friendsville was the site of our first settlement. The town was named for John Friend, Sr., who came to the area in 1769 and bought land from the Indians who were living there. The post office was established in 1830 and Gabriel Friend was the first postmaster. When the C&O railroad was built in 1890, Friendsville became an important shipping point for lumber products.

Sang Run was settled by John Friend, Jr., in 1795, on part of "Friend's Delight" at the mouth of "Ginseng Run." "Sang" is a word used for ginseng, a forest plant whose roots were a chief article of trade for pioneer settlers. It grew abundantly in this neighborhood generally known as the "Singing Ground." Meshach Browning, 1781-1859, settled at the Singing Ground in 1807. He was

Maryland's most noted hunter, and author of a popular autobiography, *Forty-four Years of the Life of a Hunter*. His famous rifle is in the Smithsonian Institution. His gravesite is located at Hoyes, formerly known as "Johnstown." The Sang Run Post Office opened in 1837; Elijah Friend was the postmaster.

Grantsville was named for Daniel Grant, an English engineer who built the Casselman Hotel in 1824. In 1785 he patented 1,100 acres which he named "Cornucopia." This was near the site of General Braddock's fifth camp. George Washington and General Braddock were in Grantsville in 1775 while en route to Fort Duquesne. Washington named the area near the Casselman Bridge "Little Crossing." When the Cumberland Road was built the old village site was abandoned and "New" Grantsville grew up on the highway. The first post office was established in 1822, at Tomlinson's Inn with Thomas Endsley as postmaster. The Casselman Hotel and the National Hotel, built in 1843, served countless travelers over the years. The oldest grist mill in Garrett County, Stanton's Mill, dates back to 1797, and is also still in operation. Grantsville is now the agricultural and commercial center of the northern part of the county.

Accident was so named from the



tract of 682 acres, surveyed in 1774 for Brooks Beall and patented in 1786 to William Deakins. The tract was named "Accident" because both Beall and Deakins accidentally claimed it. James and Priscilla Drane settled there in the 1800s in a log cabin built by Colonel William LaMar in the 1700s. It is one of the oldest buildings in the county.

McHenry, on the Buffalo Marsh inlet of Deep Creek Lake, was named for Dr. James McHenry of Baltimore. Dr. McHenry, 1753 – 1816, joined the Continental Army as a surgeon of Washington's staff. He later served Maryland on the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and was Secretary of War in the cabinets of Presidents Washington and Adams. In 1810, Dr. McHenry purchased 444 acres of Locust Tree Bottom including the present site of McHenry. He spent the winter of 1812 at a residence he built there.

Bittinger was settled by Henry Bedingar. In 1814 he purchased four military lots from Benjamin Duvall, heir to his brother Isaac, who had died in service during the Revolutionary War, for \$200.00.

The Baltimore and Ohio was the most important single agency in the development of Garrett County. Before 1849 there were no communities in the south or center of Garrett County, but following the "iron horse" came the development of lumber, coal mining resources, and farm products as towns appeared on the line of the railroad.

Oakland, the county seat of

Garrett County, was founded 23 years before Garrett County was established. Oakland was laid out in 1849 by James A. Armstrong, who was commissioned by Isaac McCarty to plan a town on his tract on land called "The Wilderness Shall Smile." Armstrong surveyed 64 town lots. Streets were named: Water, Oak, and Alder, running east and west, and numbers from First to Fifth, running north and south. A small stone was painted to mark the corner of the first town lot on First and Water Streets. The town was originally known as Slabtown because of slabs used to construct a water powered mill at the foot of Water Street. Ingaba McCarty, daughter of Isaac McCarty, gave the town its present official name of Oakland. The main line of the B&O railroad came through Oakland in 1851 and the new community rapidly developed as the commercial center for the surrounding country. The railroad was also responsible for the popularity of this section as a resort area with the building of the Deer Park Hotel in 1873 and the Oakland Hotel in 1876 which was across from the railroad station.

To the west of Oakland, two communities appeared. Hutton, which was first known as "Hutton Switch," became the site of a large tannery. The tannery was later destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. Crellin was an important lumber center for the Preston Lumber Company. It was believed to have had the largest sawmill in Maryland at one time. It later became a coal mining town with a company store operated

by Stanley Coal Company.

Early settlements in Garrett County were noted at Swanton, first known as "Swan's Mill" and recorded on the map of 1823. It was an important shipping and manufacturing point for lumber. The lumber mills were operated by Captain Truman West and his sons, and also by Alex Fairall.

Another community, Altamont, at the summit of the 17-mile grade, became an important fueling and switching point for the railroad during the early years.

Bloomington was laid out by James D. Armstrong on June 17, 1849. It was a series of 39 lots near the mouth of the Savage River, and was planned at the request of William Combs and Patrick Hamill. This place was formerly called Llangollen, because of the abundance of early wild flowers on its hillside. In 1854, the Llangollen Mining Company had 163 additional lots surveyed. John Grant operated a gun factory a few miles up the Potomac River that supplied muskets for the Army during the War of 1812.

Deer Park was host to travelers and dignitaries from all over the nation. Thousands of people came by train to the southern part of Garrett County for vacations. In 1823 the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company built the Deer Park Hotel. The Hotel provided two heated swimming pools, an 18 hole golf course, tennis courts, riding stables, Boiling Springs water, and a ballroom with name bands. In addition to the main hotel

structure, cottages were provided for those guests wishing seclusion. Several of the cottages are still standing and are occupied by year-round residents. Although designated as cottages, many had in excess of 20 rooms. The Deer Park Hotel, in its prime, was patronized by three United States Presidents: Grant, Cleveland and Harrison.

Mtn. Lake Park was founded in 1881 by the Mtn. Lake Park Association on an 800 acre track, part of the "Western Canal Convention," purchased by J.C. Anderson for the association. The town was laid out by H.C. Faul, a noted engineer. In the spring of 1882 the Tabernacle, Assembly Hall and the Davis and Townsend store were built. In May, J.M. Jarboe began the erection of the Mtn. Lake Hotel. The town was organized under a special charter as a religious center and cultural community. Finally, the association was dissolved, the property sold, and the town came under a mayor and town council type of government.

In 1881, with the establishment of a planing mill, another area in Garrett County was recognized. Loch Lynn was named for Capt. David Lynn, who owned "Lynn Pasture" on the south side of the railroad opposite Mtn. Lake Park. The name "Loch Lynn" was chosen at the time that the Loch Lynn Hotel was planned in 1894. The hotel was planned by a group of business men from Wheeling, WV, who enjoyed vacationing in the mountains. It was a three story building, with 100 rooms, a large

lobby, parlors, dining room, and ballroom. The view from the hill location made the spacious front porch popular with residents. In 1912 the hotel was destroyed by fire, leaving only a swimming pool.

Gortner, at "Swan Meadow," was originally the property of Gen. John Swan. In 1898, it had a post office, with Peter Gortner as the first postmaster. It was closed with the advent of free rural mail delivery.

The demand for coal influenced the development of many of our smaller communities in the county. Kitzmiller, originally known as "Kitzmillersville," took its name from Ebenezer Kitzmiller, who married Emily, daughter of Thomas Wilson III. In 1796, Thomas Wilson II bought Military Lot 300, site of Kitzmiller, from Frederick Bray, who had patented it in 1796. Wilson settled his son, Thomas

III, there prior to 1798 where he operated a grist mill and a saw mill.

Shallmar, East Vindex, West Vindex, and Kempton, near the Fairfax Stone, were also early mining communities.

Other interesting early names for Garrett County towns were: Hutton—Kindness, Crellin—Small Meadows, Herrington Manor—Thomas and Ann, McHenry—Locust Tree Bottom, Friendsville and Accident—Look Sharp, and the name Blooming Rose came from a verse in the Bible from the book of Isaiah. "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as a rose."

These and more information on Garrett County towns can be found in Stephen Schlosnagle's book, *Garrett County: A History of Maryland's Tableland*.

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# Twelve, Twelve, Twelve

by John A. Grant

It was one of the worse train wrecks to take place on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; five men were killed, and it happened on December 12, 1912. "Old Timers" on the Pittsburgh Division always referred to it as "Twelve, Twelve, Twelve."

A train of mixed freight cars ran away on Sand Patch Grade that rises from Hyndman, Pa., westward to Sand Patch Tunnel, near Meyersdale, Pa. The railroad, on its push westward years before, crossed the Allegheny Mountains on the Cumberland Division and on the Pittsburgh Division with several very steep grades; Sand Patch Grade was one of them.

Later, an inquiry by the railroad and the Interstate Commerce Commission brought out the fact that two locomotives were connector to the front of the train, with one of them to be uncoupled at the east end of Sand Patch Tunnel. The engineer of this locomotive concluded that the angle-cock for the train's brakes was left in the "off" position when the engines were coupled to the train, which meant that the brakes would not work.

It was estimated that the train reached a speed of nearly 100 miles an hour before it wrecked on Roddy's Curve near Glenco, Pa.

Back in the 1950s, your author met an old man who had been a Brakeman with the crew of the train that ran away and wrecked. When

asked about what he was doing when the wreck finally occurred, he had an unusual story to tell.

"When the train finally piled up, I was rolling around on the floor of the caboose in a fight with the train Conductor.

"It happened this way.

"Another Brakeman and I were riding in the caboose when the train started down the grade after leaving Sand Patch Tunnel. We remarked to the Conductor that the train seemed to be going a little fast; within minutes it was going very fast, and we decided that something had gone wrong with the brake system. The Conductor suggested that we should start setting hand brakes on the freight cars. This meant leaving the caboose and going out over the top of swaying box cars. My friend, the other Brakeman, decided that he would go first, and left to start setting the hand brakes.

"My plan was to wait in the caboose a minute till he got out over the freight cars, and then do the same thing myself.

"About that time the caboose went around a curve and almost tipped over. That's when the Conductor decided to uncouple the caboose from the rest of the train, but to do this wouldn't give my friend a safe exit from the rest of the train. So the conductor and I got in a fight; I was trying to keep the Conductor from going out the caboose door and cutting the

caboose loose from the train.

"We were rolling around on the floor when the pile up happened, and we both got thrown up against the caboose door. To our surprise, the caboose was still standing upright. In the silence that followed, I thought that my friend was dead, crushed beneath the wreckage. Then I opened the rear door of the caboose, and saw my friend walking down the tracks toward the wreck; he had been

pitched off the train on one of the curves just before it wrecked. Other than cut up and bruised he was very much alive.

"I guess my fight with the Conductor was useless, but at the time it was the only thing I could think of at the time.

"So," concluded the old man, "that's what I was doing when the train wreck took place."



## Deer Park Hotel Station

*Ed. Note: This is the remainder of an article that appeared on p. 3 of the March 2006 issue of The Glades Star. It is a narrative by Carl W. Thrasher and Helena Thrasher, his wife.*

"I was thirteen in 1934 when I helped my father, John R. Thrasher, tear down and haul away the old B. & O. Station at the Deer Park Hotel. Dad had paid \$35 for the structure and when his bid was accepted had only a few days to do the work . . . so it was 'hurry, hurry, hurry'.

"My two older brothers, Lambert and Harrison, also helped in the work as did some men from Deer Park.

"The thing that I remember best about the sale of material was the distribution of bricks that were part of the westbound station platform. Dad

sold them for \$4.00 a thousand, and there were a lot of them. They were glazed and stood on end rather than laying flat. Charlie Browning hauled most of them and I remember that one load went out of the County to Terra Alta to Earl Shaffer who bought 8,000 of them.

"In Deer Park, Dan Hinebaugh bought 1,000, 'Buck' Clatterbuck 1,000, Charlie Brown 5,000, M.P. Mosser, 8,000, 'Bunk' Browning 5,000. I also remember that Phillip Hess used some of the brick to build my Dad's basement.

"As I said, it was 'hurry, hurry, hurry' but I think my father really got his money's [worth] out of the job of tearing down the old Deer Park Hotel station."

# 2006 Oakland Accessions

*July, 2006 - October, 2006*

- Humberson Genealogy, White meat platter, FlowBlue Platter,  
FlowBlue Gravy Boat, Two FlowBlue butter  
pats.....*gifts from JoAnn Humberson Schrodel*
- Peddicord Family photographs, Maggie Washington Peddicord  
autograph book, Maggie Peddicord's mother's scarf,  
1936 St. Paul's Methodist Church dedication  
booklet .....*gifts from Fred and Diane Thayer*
- Garrett National Bank notebook. Lions Club Minstrel booklet,  
GC Homemaker Club booklet, Beachy Lumber Co.  
apron .....*gifts from Wilda Sanders*
- WWII Japanese flag.....*gift from Monty Pagenhardt*
- Two 1916 pictures of soldiers guarding the 88 Bridge in  
Oakland.....*gift from Mike Henderson*
- Large group of old business calendars .....*gifts from Steve Ferguson*
- Two 100 pound feed sacks.....*gifts from Debbie Klotz*
- Conrail passenger's cash fare receipt, Pullman Co. passenger  
check .....*gifts from Roger Shaffer*
- Deer Park butter knife.....*gift from Pat Hoffman*
- Paradise School bench .....*loan from Travis Smith*
- Early movie camera, possibly used at the Maryland  
Theater .....*given in memory of Father David Gonder,  
by his mother Kathryn "Kitty" Gonder*
- 1930s Interior picture of Garrett National Bank: Max Jarboe,  
Julius Littman, Henry McComas, Jr., G.A.  
Fraley.....*gift from Martha Welch*
- Mtn. Lake Park postcard .....*gift from Gail Dixon*



- Large group of postcards addressed to Mr. Leo Rasche ..... *gifts from Joan Browning*
- Dennett House picture and information . *gift from Margaret Germain*
- 1839 Baby cap made for Thomas J. Peddicord before his birth, 2 nightcaps made and worn by Mrs. Clagett, Lace shawl worn by Elizabeth Thayer, Quilt made by Ara Rebecca Clagett (Peddicord) before her marriage in 1860, St. Paul's United Methodist Church Lenten Bank, Pagenhardt for Judge card, 1906 Davis Hardware Bulletin...*gifts from Fred and Diane Thayer*
- Oakland Pharmacy pill box ..... *gift from Jerry Moyer*
- Picture and information on Dr. Mahlon Hinebaugh..... *gift from Mary Fraley*
- Maryland Families - Cookbook ..... *gift from Connie Beachy*
- 1957 and 1959 Garrett County Playhouse postcards, First National Bank metal bank, First National Bank ashtray ..... *gifts from Bob and Gretchen Shaffer*
- 1940 Oakland High School wild flower collection ..... *gift from Lorry and Ethel Cosner*
- Hand crocheted table centerpiece, hand crocheted bed spread ..... *gifts from Eleanor P. Scouten*
- Oakland 2nd Street postcard, 1927 Oakland snow postcard, 3 pictures of the lazy susan table used on camping trips by Ford, Edison, Firestone, and Burroughs at Swallow Falls in 1918.....*gifts from Elsie O. (Billie) Cross*
- Male Mannequin..... *gift from Sherry VanNosdeln*
- Piper Building Supply card, GBL Mobile Repair Co. card .....*gifts from Glenroot Piper*
- B&O Potomac Valley salad plate, B&O Harpers Ferry dinner plate.....*gifts from Jane Humbertson*
- Ernest Paul Watkins, New Testament with bullet hole & shrapnel, service medals, patches. New Testament. Stars & Stripes (History), 2 greeting cards, newspaper, grooming kit, flag..... *gifts from Mary Watkins*

- 25 pieces of money from various wars, lottery tickets from the  
Govt. of Sikkim ..... *gifts from Calvin Simms*
- 1884 Book: *The Pansy* ..... *gift from Regina Messer*
- 1892 Garrett County Bank account  
book ..... *gift from Bob and Leanna Boal*
- Camera used during the Korean War ..... *gift from Helen Heath*
- The Bryden Moon Story ..... *gift from Helen Moon Harper*
- Pictures of the U.S.S. Saugatuck, Orders of the Day, V-J Day,  
August 15, 1945, Oakland City Band picture of  
Bernice Ferguson ..... *gifts from George Ferguson*
- Uncle Bob—Trains, Tracks, and People, The Secret of Switchman  
Sam, Sing with the Singing Policeman  
booklets ..... *gifts from Bob Michael*
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church History, Card with interior picture  
of St. Matthew's ..... *gifts from Stephanie G. Long*
- The Maryland Spectator Magazine* ..... *gift from Carlton C. Sanders*
- Dixon & Kelso \$5 Scrip coin, CD *Melody from the 1942 Ranch  
Radio Show*, Gene Autry's "Comin' in on a Wing and a Prayer,"  
pictures and information on Col. J.C. O'Donnell from  
WWII ..... *gifts from Lt. Col. William O. Tracey*
- WWII record sent by Aza Stanton, "The Mountain Choir  
Festival" 1937, GC Bd. of Education "Songs We Love to  
Sing" ..... *gifts from Ivan Rowe*
- Large group of GC fossils ..... *gifts from Mary Foley*
- Miller's Market Jacket ..... *gift from Curt Miller*
- Early International Harvester farm machine booklets, old shoe  
catalog, early men's and ladies' shoes ..... *gifts from Robert Ault*
- Early baby dresses, hand-crocheted baby  
cap ..... *gifts from Nancy DeWitt*
- Wm. H.H. Friend maps and paper and  
CD ..... *gifts from Patti Thompson*
- Large wooden plane ..... *gift from Mike and Pat VanBuskirk*
- 1909 Fairview Church picture ..... *gift from Richard Mosser*

# Grantsville Community Museum Accessions

*March thru November 2004*

*The Museum would like to thank Alice and David Trauger for the hard work and many hours they put in the museum to make the building what it is today.*

- Postcard—Leonard B. Schaefer in his barber shop, Mark Schaefer POW postcard, 1920s blank check from Sarah R. Tissue's store. Child's union suit, World War I photographs, mirror belonging to Leonard Schaefer ..... *gifts from Sara Ruth Butler*
- Grantsville School desk ..... *gift from Matthew Stieringer*
- First State Bank account book, letter opener, Western Maryland photographs..... *gifts from James L. Pope*
- 1964 B-52 airplane crash newspaper article, 1934-1936 Grantsville High School attendance registry, First State Bank artifacts, *The Old Pike*, 1982 - 1996 Leo J. Beachy calendars, 1919 First State Bank U.S. framed certificate, savings certificate stamps and U.S. thrift stamps ..... *gifts from Louise McKenzie*
- Dress owned by Emma Caulk, linen shawl from the estate of Viola Broadwater, Viola Broadwater's family photographs, dapple grey horse certificate of registry, 1887 check for \$8,236.33 for payment of the stallion from J.S. Broadwater, sheet music by Sara Roberta Getty, two photographs and obituary of Sara Roberta Getty, Stanton's Mill paper sack, Leo J. Beachy photos of Stanton's Mill..... *gifts from Maxine Broadwater*
- National Pike souvenir folder ..... *gift from Mary V. Jones*
- Various Grantsville newspaper articles, WWII articles, 1913 -1955 Winterbery burial records, 1955 - 1962 Newman Funeral Home records, *Laurel Messenger*, 1960 - 1998, *Casselman Chronicles*, Pennsylvania information, books by Sara Roberta Getty, 1888 property deeds, Braddock Road series cards ..... *transfers from the Oakland museum*
- Jennings U.S. Post Office sign ..... *gift from Marvin W. Warnick*
- 1890 lightning rod ..... *gift from Olen Rembold*



- Rocking chair, brown glass bottles, blackboard, erasers, child's scissors, and collection baskets, wooden benches, from the Casselman Mennonite Church and Sunday School, 1874, Jennings railroad spike, flax wheel, clock reel yam winder, numerous White Water Rafting items.....*gifts from James and Dixie Winebrenner*
- 1940 graduating class of Grantsville High School, Roy Kuntz military certificates.....*gifts from Mary Sheila Glass*
- "A Son of the Alleghenies" Writings of M. L. F. Green.....*gift from Franklin J. Green*
- 1926 Grantsville Community Fair pamphlet .....*gift from Don and Sarah Broom*
- 1989 Savage River Kayak posters and other items.....*gifts from Michael F. Belmonte*
- 1999 "Bomber Dawn" newspaper article .....*gift from Kenneth Resh*
- 1988 Canoe - Kayak race information.....*gift from Hazel Klotz*
- 1910 First State bank seal, metal bank, account books.....*gifts from Robert Durst*
- 1989 White Water race display board .....*gift from Mary and Joe Candella*
- 1795 first American map, Old Braddock Road artifacts.....*gifts from Lindy Moebs*
- Aza Stanton painting.....*gift from Marietta Krause*
- Stamp size Leo J. Beachy photograph .....*gift from Kay and Don Kemp*
- Slaw cutter and tool box, made by Charles Swauger.....*gifts from Jean Swauger*
- Leo J. Beachy postcards, First State Bank artifacts, W. E. Stanton letterhead, Dr. C.C. Keller, Dentist booklet, articles from early Grantsville stores.....*gifts from John and Linda Strider*
- Aza Stanton pencil drawings, cast iron banks, Wheaton flasks.....*gifts from Paul and Gerri McKenzie*
- First State Bank Deposit book .....*gift from Sally Stanton Jarrett*
- Log Cabin Syrup bank .....*gift from Jack Caruthers*
- 1895 Stanton's Mill wooden board, Ridgely School ledger, paper flour sacks.....*gifts from John Childers*

# Memorials

## Leona Hardesty

*Sunnyside Homemakers  
Art and Betty Naylor  
Gretchen and Bob Shaffer  
Richard and Carolyn Flude  
Kevin and Nina Callis  
Youghiogheny Glades DAR  
Mary Virginia Jones  
Mountain Lions Club  
Robert and Rosetta Rodeheaver  
Offutt and Joan Johnson  
Paul R. and Joan M. Sanders, Jr.  
Ken Hardesty  
Raymond and Patricia Rogers  
Barbara L. Wibberly  
John and Jean Grant*

## Landon Boal

*Dr. Tom and Kathy Johnson  
Cliff DeWitt  
Don and Patti Battista  
Mary Virginia Jones  
Helen Heath  
John and Jean Grant  
Margaret Germain  
Jack and Marilyn Regentin  
Ed and Marianne Green*

## Vane "Mike" Iden

*Frank Lewis  
Monday Bowling League  
Anna Bishop*

## Judy Sherwood Schaumburg

*Mary Virginia Jones  
Gretchen and Bob Shaffer*

## Arleigh Hauser

*Mary Virginia Jones*

## Willard Elliott

*Mary Virginia Jones  
Sull and Brenda McCartney*

## Martha Lou Ashby Rinehart

*Bob and Leanna Boal  
Art and Betty Naylor  
Mary Virginia Jones  
Donald and Joanne Ringer  
Edith D. Browning  
Mary Susan Elgin  
Robert and Jane Calvert  
Fred and Diane Thayer  
Jim and Sandy Flanigan  
Joseph W. Hanna  
Bill and Debbie Weissgerber  
Michael F. Belmonte  
Jacquelyn L. Shirer  
Ed M. Ziegenfuss  
John and Jean Grant  
Joseph and Nancy Mirsky  
Patricia Burns  
Karen Van Dyk  
Martha DeBerry  
Gail Donohue  
James and Joanne Ashby  
Mark Ashby  
Steven Ashby  
Dennis and Cheryl McQuillan  
Leesburg, Florida, Bridge Club  
Richard and Joan Bikle  
John H. Rinehart  
Carolyn and Bill Taylor  
Karen and James McHenry  
Ski Club  
Gretchen and Bob Shaffer*

## Dwight Stover

*Margaret Germain  
Jacquelyn L. Shirer  
Mary Virginia Jones*

## N. Ann Kight

*Jacquelyn L. Shirer*

## Elbert Riley

*Margaret Germain*







Snow storm, Deer Park Hotel grounds in 1920. Photos courtesy of Hazel Steiding Sherwood, from her late father, Charles A. Steiding.

# Donations

- Wal-Mart
- Eleanor Scouten
- Gary and Luanne Ruddell
- Arlene Lantz
- Jane Avery
- R. Blair and Marilyn Savage
- John Briggs
- Oakland/Mtn. Lake Park Lions Club
- Dr. and Mrs. James Feaster

## Application for Membership

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$15 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of

*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only one copy of each of the four issues. All memberships are on a yearly basis, from July 1 through June 30.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New      \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

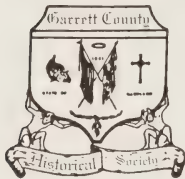
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, P.O. Box, 28, Oakland, MD 21550-0028





# THE Glades Star

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THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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OAKLAND, MARYLAND

MARCH 2007

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## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

### OFFICERS 2004-2005

President ..... Robert Boal  
1st Vice President ..... James Ashby  
2nd Vice President ..... Paul Shogren  
Treasurer ..... Kevin Callis  
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Editor ..... Jack Regentin  
Cir. Manager ..... Joseph Connors

### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *Slave Cabins at Herrington Manor State Park??*

*by Clifford C. DeWitt*



**Herrington Manor House.**

**H**errington Manor State Park presumably takes its name from Abijah Herrington and the manor house once located there. A large 2½-story manor house was located on the left side of the park road leading to Herrington Manor Lake. All that remains of the house today is foundation stones. The 53-acre lake was built during the depression years of the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. It is believed the manor house was built somewhere in the mid 1800s and was torn down around 1964.

Recollections of retired State Forestry employees recall the remnants of several "slave cabins" located near the manor house. Offutt Johnson, retired Park Naturalist, recalls two old fireplace chimneys and remnants of what had been called "slave cabins." The chimneys were still standing around 1940-50 when they were removed as a hazard to visitors.

Ward Ashby remembers one old chimney standing, the remnants of what he had heard was an old "slave cabin." He recalled hearing the story



that Mr. Herrington had brought his slaves here from the Washington, D.C., area.

Abraham Lincoln Sines (the first Swallow Falls State Forest Superintendent) lived in the house in the 1930s. L.C. Sines, grandson of Abraham Lincoln Sines, remembers as a child visiting his grandfather when he lived in the manor house. He remembers the house had six fireplaces and a spiral staircase that led upstairs. A pantry was located on the second floor. He doesn't remember the cabin remnants. The water for the manor house was fed from a large spring and reservoir above the house. The spring had a brass serpent's head from which water flowed into the reservoir and thence by gravity to the house. The spring and reservoir are still intact. The brass serpent's head, however, has long since disappeared.

A large barn once stood above the manor house. Rumor has it that the barn was used as a hiding place on the "underground railroad" for escaping

slaves to cross the Mason-Dixon Line from Maryland into Pennsylvania and freedom.

A search of the land records for Garrett County, but which in earlier times was part of Allegany County and prior to that Washington County from 1776, fail to show any conveyances to Abijah Herrington. No record of a will could be found either.

Whatever happened to Abijah Herrington? Did he actually live in the manor house and when? Did he have slaves there and were the cabin and chimney remnants actually "slave cabins" or for some other purpose? I suppose at least for the present time it will remain a mystery. Perhaps some day this mystery will be solved, but until then we can only speculate! Were those "slave cabins"?

This writer along with Offutt Johnson recently roamed over the park area looking for the remains of the cabins but found few except the foundation stones of the manor house.

**S. L. TOWNSHEND & SON,**

**Oakland, Md.,**  
DEALERS IN

**Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats,**

**✕Caps, Boots, Shoes, Clothing,✕**

**Country Produce, &c.**

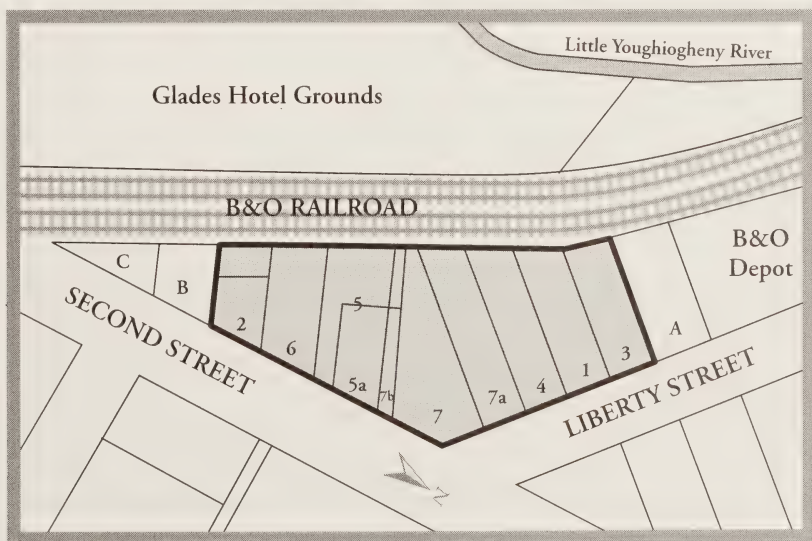
# Succession of Properties Adjacent to the Original Dailey's Park

by Robert Shaffer

*Editor's Note: This short piece is the third installment of Bob Shaffer's in-depth research on the history and disposition of properties in the area of downtown Oakland bounded by the railroad, Second and Liberty Streets, and the railroad station. The first two installments—"The Glades Hotel and the Establishment of Dailey's Park" and "Succession of Properties Comprising the Original Dailey's Park"—appeared in the June and September 2006 issues of Glades Star, and the final installment—"A Partial List of Businesses Fronting the Railroad and Second and Liberty Streets From 1875 to the Pres-*

*ent"—will appear in a future issue.*

Mr. Josias Pennington purchased the plot of land between Dailey's Park and the railroad station, identified by "A" on the map, from William Schley in November 1865. A short time later Pennington sold it to Stephen Browning who then sold it to Andrew N. Delawder in 1868 and then repurchased it in 1874. The lot then went through a succession of owners—Charles Sincell, Andrew Shartzer, and Thomas Burke—who became owner/manager of the Schley Hotel on this site. In 1903 Mr. Burke sold the property to Nannie Burke



who sold it to Edward Frantz in 1906. He renamed the hotel the Frantz Hotel, and the property remained in his family for the next 36 years. Ralph Pritts bought the property in 1942 and used it for many years for various purposes in connection with his garage. In 1986 Hilda Pritts sold the property to the 125 Liberty Club (Alcoholics Anonymous), which owns it to this day.

The triangular plot land south of Dailey's Park at the intersection of Second Street and the railroad, identified on the map by "B" and "C," was owned by Messrs. Delawder and Adair in the mid 1800s. They sold it in September 1862 to Louis C. Randall whose son Louis B. sold it to Henry Mayers in 1891. Mr. Mayers established a drug store there. In 1893 he divided the plot in two and sold the southern parcel ("C") to William Mallette and the northern parcel ("B"), containing the drug store, to George Clauson. Three years

later Robert Ravenscroft bought the Clauson property at public auction and Mr. Mallette sold his plot to Susan Thomas. Mr. Ravenscroft bought this property as well in 1899 at public auction and established a building there. It was known for many years as the Ravenscroft Building.

In April 1921 Mr. Ravenscroft sold both parcels of his land to William, Francis, and Thomas Gonder. Harriett Gonder sold the northern portion ("B") in February 1970 to Marvin Jones who operated a menswear store there until it burned in February 1994. He subsequently donated the land to the Town of Oakland, which presently maintains a small park there.

Kathryn Gonder sold the southern portion of the Gonder property ("C") to James Helbig in September 1971. The building there was destroyed by the 1994 fire and immediately rebuilt. It is now the site of the Gonder Insurance Agency.

## *Mailing Address Change*

The Historical Society will give up its Post Office Box mailing address in June and in the next few weeks have a traditional mail box installed at the museum. Please send all correspondence to:

107 South 2nd Street  
Oakland, MD 21550



# Oakland's First Merchants

*Editors Note: This article was written many years ago by Elizabeth "Betty" West, a past secretary of the Historical Society, and just recently found in the museum's files. Bob Boal and Terry Helbig have done some minor editing names and dates—and gathered together the pictures, some from the museum's files, some from private collections. Readers are invited to submit more articles of this sort on other towns and communities in the county for publication in the Glades Star.*

## MERCHANTS

Think back one hundred years to

the days when there were no trains, no automobiles, no telephones, and no electricity. Cooking was done in the fireplaces and tin-plate stoves.

Supplies were brought to the Yough Glades by wagon and sled from the nearest shopping centers at Romney, Cumberland and Westernport. The opening of the railroad brought a market to the new town; a country store was needed. Country produce was the means of exchange; meat, butter, eggs and grain were brought to be traded for coffee, tea, calico, muslin, needles and thread.



The J.M. Davis and Sons Hardware Store.



**Offutt's Store on Second Street about 1915 in the building now occupied by Rudy's.**

To go shopping in Oakland in 1850, you would find the first merchant, Daniel R. Brandt, putting in a stock of goods in his new store on Oak Street. The second merchant was Jeremiah Leonard Townshend. His residence and store were on the corner of Second and Alder Streets.

The Townshend family came to the Glades in 1831. The first members of the family came to Maryland in 1790. In 1812 Singleton Townshend was married to Catherine Belt of Frederick County, and with

their children, came to the Glades. Their daughter Anne Marie married James Armstrong of Yough Glades in 1844; their son Jeremiah Leonard Townshend married Tabitha Hoyer and came with their family to the new town on the railroad. Mr. Townshend was elected Magistrate. He was soon joined in business by James R. Bishop; later he changed to enter into partnership with John M. Davis in general merchandise. His son, Singleton L. Townshend, purchased from Daniel J. Hoyer on July 30, 1853, a lot of the first survey of Oakland. A home was built there and occupied by the family, and their children Arthur, Ernest, Robert, Mary, Kate and Edith.

#### **OFFUTT'S STORE**

In our records, we find the heavy timber from Offutt's Mill on the Youghiogheny River was used to repair the railroad

**The  
Lakewood.  
Caldwells  
Patent  
Adjustable,  
ball bearing,  
16 inches. Price  
\$6.50. From the  
A.E. Naylor The  
Family Hardware  
Store booklet.**







Original Naylor Building, 1890. Left to right: Jim Turley, Jim Denmark, J.M. Falkenstein, Hoyell Boy, A.D. Naylor, Paul Naylor, Toby (his dog), Henry Selders, A.J. Harne, T.S. Claggett, Ed Hall, Ernest Harne, and Eli Williams.



Arrival of a shipment of Maytag washers in the early 1930s. Shown are A.D. Naylor, John Davis, unknown, Arthur Naylor, Bill Tillett, unknown, and Burlin Holler.

bridge which was burned during Jones' Raid in 1862. That mill was owned and operated by a young man from Frostburg, Md., Daniel Edward Offutt. Along with the lumber mill, Mr. Offutt had a general store located on Second Street. The two story wooden frame building extended to Railroad Street with entrances on both streets. The store was a thor-

oughfare to and from the railroad station and to the Glades Hotel. On July 12, 1898, seven buildings were destroyed by fire including Offutt's Store, Harned's Pharmacy and the *Mt. Democrat* building. The loss was estimated to be \$30,000. Mr. Offutt at once purchased the business of his nephew, George Miller, a general store located in the Sincell Building.





**A.D. Naylor building on Liberty Street.**

All goods salvaged from the fire were on the shelves the following morning, ready for sale. The store was rebuilt on the same site and is still a handsome building. D.E. Offutt and Sons Store was described in the Guide in 1900 as "notably the largest store in Western Maryland, but a better store than can be found in cities much larger than Oakland." It would be easier to enumerate the articles not sold, than

to list those that are, so the readers of the Guide should go and see for themselves.

In 1882 when the Mt. Lake Association was formed we find his name among the promoters, and in 1888, when the Garrett County Bank was incorporated, we find him as one of the officers in the Bank.

In 1871, Mr. Offutt was married to Miss Arabella Seymour of More-



**Shirer's Tin Shop, Garrett County's oldest continuously operating family business.**

field, West Virginia. Their children were Edward, Elwood, William, Nelle, and Elizabeth. His home built about 1870 was occupied by the family until 1934. Mr. Offutt brought electricity to Oakland which was among the first small towns to install electric lights.

After Mr. Offutt's death in 1915, his sons carried on the business until 1915 when the store was sold to George A. Fraley. His sons, Lawrence and Neil, were in charge. Later, Kaufman and Fisher chain store under the management of I.R. Rudy of Romney, West Virginia, bought the business. They eventually sold the building and the business to Mr. Rudy in 1939. In 1947 when the business was firmly established, the second and third floors of the big brick building were modernized by Mr. Rudy into residence apartments to help solve the

housing shortage.

#### NAYLORS

It was on March 12, 1884, that Alonzo Drake Naylor came to Oakland and purchased the wood working and blacksmith business from Mrs. Charles Sincell, after the death of her husband. Mr. Naylor boarded in her home and admired her greatly. Mr. Naylor was married soon after he came to Oakland to Miss Artie Bartlett of Newburg, West Virginia. Their children were Paul and Arthur, and their home was on the corner of Center and Wilson Streets. Very shortly after the birth of Arthur, Mrs. Naylor died. Later, Mr. Naylor married Miss Mary Townshend, the daughter of the Oakland pioneer Singleton L. Townshend. Their children were, Playford Townshend, Mary Drake, Justice O'Dell, and Rebecca Davis. Mr. Naylor bought





Part of the old tin shop about 1934.

Crook Crest in 1903 and lived there until 1909 when he moved to the large brick house which was built for William Ison on Fourth Street.

In March 1934, a letter from Mr Naylor to Mr. Sincell, the Editor of *The Republican* marked the fiftieth year of his entry into business in

### New Perfection Wick Blue Flame Oil Stove



Price \$3.50 to \$10.00. From the A.E. Naylor *The Family Hardware Store* booklet.

Oakland. Some extracts from this letter follow: "Mr. Naylor's first work was repairing a three seated wagon for George D. White and fitting handles, for William P. Totten, brought to the shop by Coleman Dandridge, a colored stableman.

Other customers were Nathan and Truman Casteel, William and Rolla White, Jack Bowers, Mahlon, Jesse, Jonas and Adrian Glotfelty, Henry, Theodore, and Rudolph Beckman, Norman Bernard, William Hall, Barney Reynolds, Joseph B. Davis, John Harned and scores of others.

Shortly after coming to Oakland, Mr. Naylor bought from Henry Weber, a two story building on the adjoining lot and extended the wood-working business to build express and delivery wagons. George Richardson, being skilled in that work, was a valued assistant. Wagons and sleds were built and later farm machinery, factory-made wagons, spring wagons, and top buggies were brought to Oakland in railroad car load lots. A banner year recorded the sale of one hundred and twelve Cormack binders, mowers and rakes. These implements were sold on an installment plan of three yearly payments. Binders \$115, mowers, \$45, rakes \$19, two horse plow



**For The Tinsmith's Handicraft**

(As appear in Shirer's Journal No. 2)

Tin Roofing (installed)	Dish Pan	70
.....\$5.00 per sq.	Bread Pan	50
Tin Spouting (installed)	Tea Kettle	60
.....12½ per Lin. Ft.	Cake Pan	25
4 Qt. coffee pot	Dinner Bucket	60
3 Qt. coffee pot	Spittoon	40
3 Gal. slope side bucket	Copper Wash Boiler	\$1.50
2 Gal. slope side bucket	Watering Pot	25
4 Qt. Lamp Oil can	Dipper	10
2 Qt. Lamp Oil can	Sauce Pan	15
Slop Jar	Match Safe	10
Dutch Bucket*	Colander	30
Complete set Toilet Ware	Coal Hod	50
Zinc Bath Tub	Fruit Cans	.05 ea., .55 doz.
Chamber Pot	Tin Bath Tub	\$2.50
Minnie Bucket*	Dust Pan	15
Sausage Stuffer	Candle Moulds	.05 per hole
Dredging Box*	Miners Lamp	25
Fly Trap	Camphor Torch	30
Cake Turner	Flour Sieve	25

**1879 Prices.**

\$8, and a wood frame harrow \$7.50. The price for shoeing a horse with new shoes all totaled up was 90 cents. A set of new steel tires on four buggy wheels, 70 holes drilled with bolts to hold the tires was \$6.00. Labor was 50 cents to a dollar a day, mechanic's pay was \$1.75 to \$2.00 a day.

With the assistance of his three sons, Paul, Arthur and Townshend, the business developed into plumbing, heating and electrical work, along with hardware and farming supplies. Three grandsons, Howard, Arthur Jr., P. Allen Naylor, and Homer Bennett were also associates. The A.D. Naylor Company was represented by three generations.

In 1884, oil lamps lighted the streets of Oakland, The Bailiff, Aleck Fleckenstein, was responsible for the care of these lights. Second Street ended at Crook Street, which was

only a country road, and Third Street ended at Green Street, from that point the ground was used for a vegetable garden for the Glades Hotel. "Uncle" Billy Banks, a former slave in the Dailey family, was the gardener. Some of this land was used about 1899 for Circus grounds. When the Garrett Telephone Company was organized about nineteen connections were made through small switchboards in stores. The Oakland switchboard was in the woodworking part of the Naylor Shop. Lists of businesses as recalled by Mr. Naylor were: John M. Davis, S.L. Townshend, D.E Offutt, W.P. Totten, James R Bishop, Owen Hart and Sons, M.L. Scott, D.H. Loar, and John Shartzter, merchants Col. A.G. Sturgis and Daniel Chisholm were druggists; G.A. Shirer, tinsmith, and John Yellowly was a blacksmith. The doctors were Dr. J.



**D.E. Bolden's funeral home and furniture store on the site of M&T Bank on Second Street.**

Lee McComas, Dr. E.H. Bartlett, and Dr. Bayard T. Keller In Mt. Lake Park, P.T. Garthright was the merchant and C.T. Rathbun operated a large planing mill.

#### SHIRER AND SONS

One of the oldest business firms in Oakland is the Shirer Plumbing and Tin Shop which was started on Second Street in 1866, Mr. Peter Shirer came to Grantsville in 1836 and established a general merchandise store; he also had a team for wagoning on the National Road. In 1838, he sold out and migrated as far west as Missouri, but in a short time, he returned to Maryland and located near Red House on the North Western Turnpike. His land there was fenced and rented as an overnight pasture for the droves of cattle passing through to the market in the east.

Mr. Shirer moved to Oakland in 1855 and in 1866 opened the Tin Shop in a building on Second Street. He employed a skilled tinner to teach

his sons, Gus and Silas. At that time all buckets, pans, stove pipes and spouts were made by hand. In 1870, Mr. Shirer bought property on Oak Street for his home and store. His son Gus and his two sisters lived there during their lives. Silas Shirer's home was on Alder Street. The Shirer home on Oak Street was among the first houses to be built in Oakland and was in use as a Hotel about 1860. The business has been carried on through five generations of reliable work. Shirer's was first operated by Peter and his sons, Gus and Silas, then Ernest and his son Scott and his grandson, William Shirer. These men along with other employees did fine electrical work as well as plumbing and metal work.

#### D.E. BOLDEN

One of Oakland's popular business men for many years was an Oakland boy, DeCoursey Emroy Bolden who was born in 1859. His father was Charles Bolden and his mother



**The H.C. Sincell Clothing Store in the Republican building.**

was Maria Shirer, the daughter of Peter Shirer, Mr. Charles Bolden and his son DeCoursey were builders and many houses in Oakland were built by them. Mr Bolden married Miss Sarah J. Roth of Eglon, West Virginia. Their home was on Second Street near Oak Street. Their children were Annie, Leah, Prema, Edith and Emroy. Mr. Bolden opened a furniture store, the first one in this vicinity and in connection with his contracting work was called upon as an undertaker. Mr. Bolden was associated in the furniture business with Mr Austin Brown in the store later occupied by Smouse's Grocery on Second Street. Eventually the Bolden Furniture Store was located in a room adjoining the Manhattan Hotel. After Mr. Bolden's death, his son Emroy and daughter, Edith,

purchased the M.D Scott building on Second Street and established their undertaking establishment there for several years. An exchange was made when their place was selected for the site of the Post Office and they moved to the Offutt house. The Offutt house was built about 1870 for Mr. D.E. Ofrutt and remodeled twice under contract by Mr. Bolden. It was first enlarged and about 1909, the third floor was added and the new porch was built. Emroy and Edith Bolden carried on their father's undertaking business in a modern way and with other interests, were leading citizens of Oakland.

#### **H.C. SINCCELL**

April 1, 1891, was a Red Letter day for one of Oakland's young men, H.C. Sincell. In his recollection of





**A line-up of Fords from James Treacy's dealership in 1913. The dealership had entrances on both Second and Alder Streets.**

early days in Oakland, Mr. Sincell found great pleasure in assisting Mrs. Crook and her sister, Mrs. Read, at the New Glades Hotel. He was ready at the desk to receive the guests and assign them to their rooms, which were engaged from one season to the next. Growing up in this atmosphere of well dressed city folks, an urge to sell good suits and nice clothes was developed, and in 1894, we find Mr. Sincell starting a business of his own. A store was rented on Alder Street. Business grew rapidly and in 1894, he joined his brother, Benjamin Sincell and built the handsome Sincell Building, with room for the clothing store, *The Republican* Printing Company, and the law offices for Edward Sincell and T.J. Peddicord. Since 1891, well chosen merchandise was brought from the best factories in Baltimore, New York and later California. Mr. Sincell was fortunate in having three very attractive members of his family to assist him in his business. First, his sister, Margaret, later a cousin. Miss

Cleo Krantz of Frederick and since 1915, his daughter Miss Leah had been his assistants. Beside this interest, since 1938, Miss Leah had helped her husband, Carlton McComas, develop McComas beach into a popular resort. Mr. Sincell celebrated fifty years in business in 1941; and also had a Golden Wedding Celebration. He was married to Miss May Kennedy of Wheeling, West Virginia in 1891. Their children were Douglas, Leah, and Margaret. Present day stock of goods included all ready-made articles of clothing. Bathing suits and sweaters came from California, a full line of household linens, hand bags and costume jewelry were also sold.

#### TREACY'S STORE

In 1900, a popular grocery store was located in the Ravenscroft building on Second Street. This store was owned by Mr. Flowers and later the business was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Cropp, the parents of Fred and Robert. In 1905, James P. Treacy and his sister, "Miss Annie" bought the



**Treacy's store on Alder Street festooned for Oakland's Centennial Celebration in 1949.**

business and continued in that location until 1910. Mr. Treacy became interested in the sale of automobiles and opened the first agency in Oakland for the Ford Car. From that time he found business expanding and bought property on Alder Street extending through the block to the alley where he opened a Garage. In the early days there was also an entrance on Second Street. A small building which had been used as an office was enlarged for the store to include a good residence for "Miss Annie," now Mrs. Pendergast. Automobile repairs were made and supplies were on sale in a second store building on Alder Street. This store had been a very popular grocery, owned by Mr. Eugene Baumgartner. Business continued to grow and an addition was made to the Baumgartner store. It was later occupied by the Clover Farm

Store. The Treacy store was carried on by "Miss Annie" until January 1, 1947, when the brothers John and Maurice Treacy started a new cycle of business called Treacy Cash Store to carry on the business established by their father in 1905. These young men were well equipped for their advancement in business. They were educated in preparation for successful lives and were officers in the U.S. Navy in WWII.

#### WEBER

Johannes Heinrich (Henry) Weber was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, in 1835 and attended government schools of Germany until fifteen years of age. He was apprenticed to a florist and was later placed in charge of his employer's business. During the Crimean War in 1854, he served in the British Army, going under the British Colonial



**Weber's florist enterprise in 1910.**

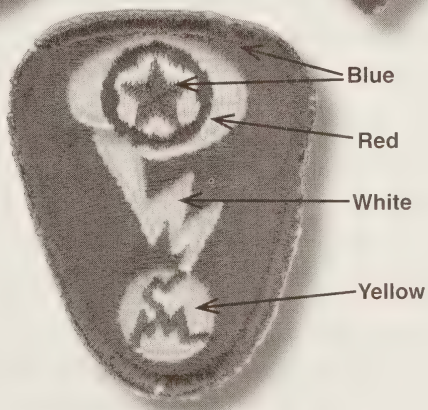
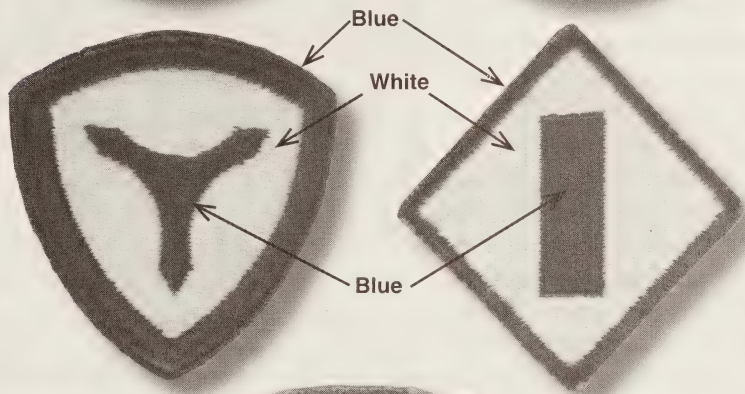
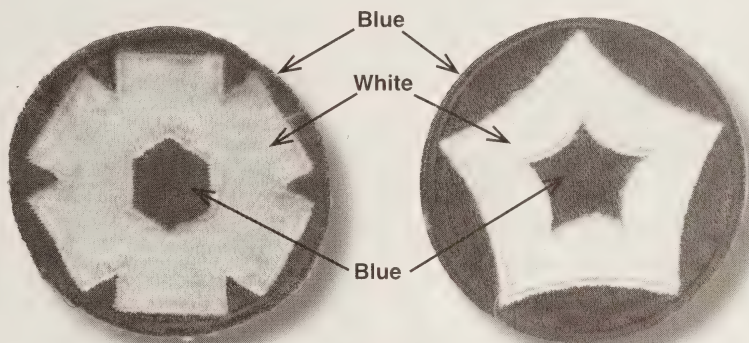
Army to Asia, Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. His experiences were varied and extremely interesting. In 1865, he decided to come to America with his brother, John Weber. He made his home at Mt. Savage, near Cumberland, where they farmed and had a market garden. In 1866, Mr. Weber married Miss Catherine Schultz at Mt. Savage. Four years later, he sold his interest to his brother and moved to Cumberland, where he established a successful market and florist business. In 1876 Mr. Weber bought part of the old Hoyer Tract "Civicus" from Samuel Engle. It was unimproved glade land near Oakland, but in a few years the property was transformed into a fine florist and garden market. Acres of glass covered the finest roses, carnations, and chrysanthemums. Only the best were grown and sold. New varieties of roses and carnations were developed by Mr. Weber's son, William. These

new plants were in great demand by the finest florists. Medals and prizes were won in Exhibitions at Chicago, New York, Atlanta, Cincinnati and other cities from 1893 to 1897. The Weber family came to Garrett County to establish their home in 1883. Their first home was near the greenhouse. About 1904, a large house called "Seilheim" was built on higher ground. William Weber bought a home on the Mt. Lake Road adjoining the original farm and Ralph Weber built his home south of the Greenhouses on a high hill. A tall red brick smoke stack stands as a landmark beside the greenhouses with the name Weber in light colored brick. Mr. Weber's sons, Henry, William, George, John, Frank and Ralph and his daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, Katie, Diana and Edith, have all been interested in growing flowers, and business was carried on and well patronized by neighboring cities.



# Help

Paul Shogren needs your help in identifying these military unit shoulder patches from WWII. If you have any information on these patches please call the museum.



# County Milkweed Project

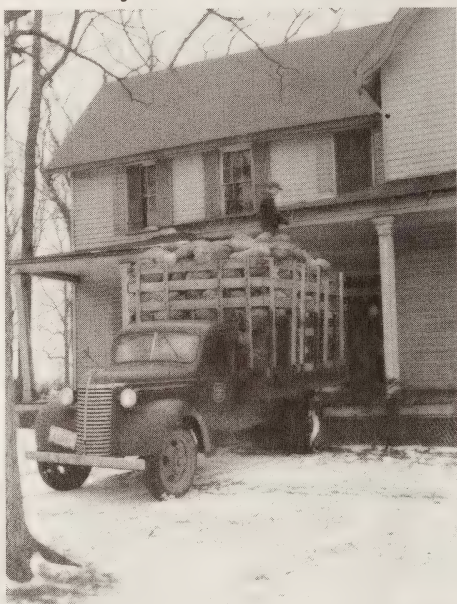
by Alice Eary

The September 2005 issue of *The Glades Star* included some interesting information regarding life during World War II. Another activity which took place during the war involved the school children of Garrett County. In the fall of 1944, 21 Maryland counties, including Garrett, participated in a "Milkweed Pod Collection."

The floss from the milkweed pods was needed for making life jackets for the men in service. It replaced "kapok," a material which became unavailable when the Japanese conquered the East Indies.

William Nace arranged for the pods to be picked up and transported to a central location where they were allowed to dry before being taken to the train station to be shipped to Petosky, Michigan, to be processed. Garrett County school children gathered 2,373 bushels of pods—enough to make over a thousand life jackets.

Special open-mesh bags were provided for the pods. Each bag held a bushel. Burlap or feed sacks caused pods to mold or mildew, making them useless. Bags were hung on fences near the schools for proper curing and drying. When collections were



**Loading truck with part of Garrett County's milkweed pod collection in January 1945. Bags from this storage facility will be hauled to the railroad station.**

made, pickers were to be paid 20 cents per bushel.

All schools made an effort, but Grantsville School led the group with 558 bushels. Most small schools did exceptionally well. Swan Meadow had done well, but they could contribute only one bushel of pods when the truck arrived because Halloween pranksters had destroyed ten bushels by pouring them down a chimney.

The amounts reported by in-



**Three truck loaded with milkweed pod collections from Washington and Allegany Counties. Trucks contain 1,130, 900 and 900 bags.**

dividual schools were as follows: Swanton, 10; North Glade, 24; Frankville, 8; Bethel, 17-1/2; Mt. Zion, 15; Friendsville, 350; Sand Spring, 19; McCabe, 5; Grantsville, 588; New Germany, 25; Jennings, 30; Yoder, 40; Maynardier Ridge, 16; Bloomington, 43; Accident, 340; Rich Hill, 38; Hoyes Run, 12; Sunnyside 12; Kempton, 36; Corunna, 25; Red Oak, 5; Swan Meadow, 1; Red House, 22; Steyer, 20; Johnson, 4; Beall, 28; Bethlehem, 14; Spring Glade, 12; Boiling Spring, 3-1/2; Bittinger, 5; Beachy, 6; Fairview, 10; Casselman, 13; Bear Hill, 27; Black Hawk, 16; Kitzmiller, 40; West Vindex, 22; Shallmar, 19; Vindex, 39; Oakland Elementary, 150; Bray, 3; Herrington, 3; Crellin, 24; Avilton, 13; Mt. Lake Park, 48; Lynndale, 11; Loch Lynn, 31; Oakland High,

59; St. Peter's, Oakland, 25; Total 2,373.

F. E. Rathbun, school superintendent and county chairman of the project, extended his congratulations for the fine showing made.

Members of the County Milkweed Project: F. E. Rathbun, Chairman, Oakland; Frank Getty, Grantsville; W. J. Glenn, Friendsville; B. O. Aiken, Accident; F. D. Bittle, Oakland; O. P. Jones, Kitzmiller, all high school principals; Merle Frantz, Oakland; Josie Iden, Crellin; Mrs. Lenora Buckel, Bittinger, elementary principals; Mrs. Caroline Wilson and Miss Kate Banatyne, supervising teachers; John L. Fitzwater, transportation supervisor. Others on the committee were Rev. Francis Driscoll, George Hanst, W. W. Nace, John H. Carter and Joe Steger, assistant county agent.



# *Beginning of Ski Slopes in Garrett County*

*by John A. Grant*

As near as can be determined, the first regular planned ski slope in Garrett County was completed in December 1939 at New Germany State Park.

A year earlier, in December 1938, Mr. Fred Besley, State Forester, had brought in a group of business men from Baltimore area to determine if a ski slope and toboggan run were feasible in the park. After several days of having fun in the snow, the whole group thought building several ski trails and a toboggan run in the Park was an excellent plan. And so, work

on the proposed trails and toboggan run was begun as early as possible by men from the local C.C.C. camp.

Part of the overall plan by the Forestry Department was expanded to include Herrington Manor State Park. In addition to the ski trails the lake at New Germany was enlarged for ice skating, and construction of a lake was begun at Herrington Manor. Later, the plans were again enlarged to accommodate activities for summer visitors to the parks as well as winter sports enthusiasts.

Ironically, when the first ski slope



Note the ski figure on New Germany Sign.



**1939 ski trail came through this area.**

was opened in December 1939 at New Germany, it was one that hadn't even been planned. It was in an open field near the lake, not far from the C.C.C. camp barracks.

The Forestry Department developed a "portable" 400 foot rope-tow which was operated on Saturdays and Sundays when there was snow. It was powered by an automobile engine, and had pulley wheels mounted on posts and tied to several big trees. Designed to pull skiers up a gentle slope, it was used for several winters

but was discontinued during World War II.

After the War was over, several commercial slopes were built or planned for the County, but have since disappeared due to their locations and limited snow falls. Now, the facilities at the Wisp more or less eclipse them all. However, there are still excellent ski and snowmobile trails in the state parks, but the beginning of them all was the short trail that opened at New Germany in December 1939.

# *Snowbound At Northern High In 1960*

*by Jean T. Grose*

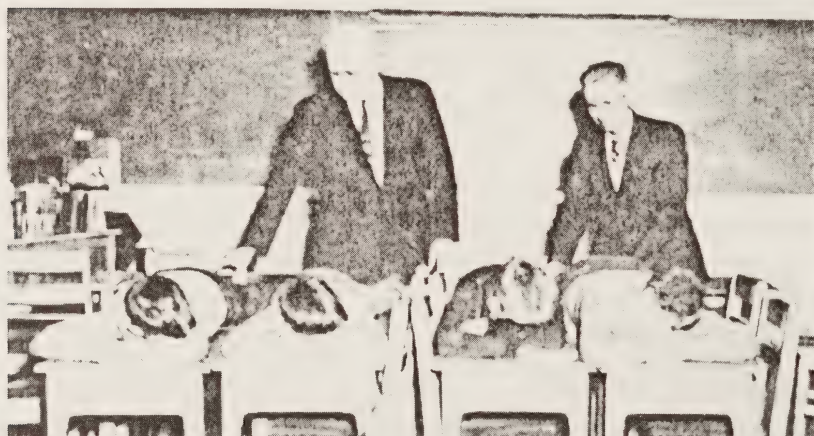
Wednesday, March 16, 1960, was a busy and exciting day for Northern High School students. The basketball team was preparing to travel to College Park to participate in the Maryland State Tournament. The entire student body was excited and many activities were planned to celebrate the event. A Pep Rally was scheduled for the next day to give the team a grand send-off as the team boarded a chartered bus in front of the school.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature had a different plan for the next day.

March 16 began with typical

March weather: sunshine then snow flurries, followed by more snow flurries and periods of sunshine. About noon the wind increased significantly while the snow came down more frequently and heavier, becoming a real snowstorm that raged for the remainder of the school day. It was so dense that students could hardly see the flagpole in front of the school. Soon, automobiles in the parking lot were only white mounds of snow.

At the end of the school day, Accident and Friendsville school buses were on time to load the students and were quickly on their way to the stu-



**AND SO TO BED**—Four of the 250 children who were stranded overnight in Northern High School on U.S. Route 219 in Garrett County are shown above as they are “tucked in for the night” by two faculty members. On the improvised beds are Chilton and Bill Grose, brothers, who live just across the state line at Cranesville, W. Va.; Thomas Warren, Grantsville; and Robert Garlitz, Avilton. The teachers left to right are F. N. Carson, social studies instructor, and Lawrence Faith, vo-ag teacher. The two Grose boys’ mother, Mrs. Edward Grose, is a teacher at the school. (From the *Cumberland Times*)





**So, What's Next?** Students sitting on the steps in the hallway toward the gym are just waiting. Adults in the picture are Henry Patton "Joker" (bus driver) in back left and Coach Alvin D. Jones in center back. Some others in the picture are Jim Lowery, Joe Durst, Chilton Grose, Tom Peterson, Larry Yommer, George Walker and Frank Hutzel.

dents' homes. When the Grantsville and Route #40 buses failed to arrive, rumors and speculations flew about as the time passed.

Eventually, students looking toward U.S. 219 saw men trudging through the snow toward the high school building. When they arrived it was learned, through chattering teeth, that the buses for Northern High were stuck in very deep snow somewhere near Keyser's Ridge. The men were not dressed warmly and they had waded through snow for over a mile to get to the school. It was then that teachers and students realized the Grantsville—Route 40 students were stranded at Northern High.

School Principal Paul Muha called a meeting of the faculty, cafeteria, and custodial staff, which planned for supper, a sleep-over for the students, and breakfast the next day; all this, assuming that the roads would be

open in the morning.

Even though the storm raged outside, a feeling of security prevailed inside; the building was warm and electricity was still on. The cafeteria staff provided a good hot meal of wieners and sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, green beans, peaches, and milk. A cooperative atmosphere prevailed and the evening was filled with an air of festivity as the group enjoyed their time playing games, watching films, dancing, socializing and, for some, studying. No one seemed "bent out of shape."

For those students who required insulin or some special medication, their parents managed to get to the school over back roads to deliver it, or take the student back home.

Incredible as it might seem, the storm had not hit Oakland with the same intensity; the National Guard there learned of the predicament of

the students at Northern, and arrived with cots and blankets. People from Friendsville and Accident brought comforters. (According to the *Cumberland News*, some students stranded in Friendsville and Accident stayed in private homes.)

Northern High School personnel distributed mats from the gym to be used as beds in the classrooms. Around midnight students began to settle down for the night with men teachers and boys housed on the second floor and lady faculty members and girls on the first floor. Needless to say, certain "ground rules" were laid down, and for the most part abided by.

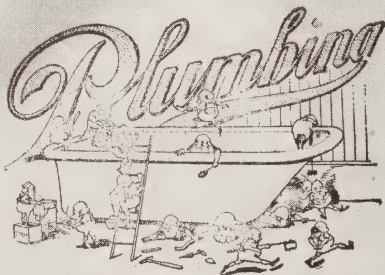
Two State Troopers were stationed at the school all night in case an emergency occurred during the night. In fact, it was a little like first night at summer camp with very few incidents occurring during the night, just giggling and whispering. Most of the students were not much upset by this unusual event in their lives. Local radio stations announced the procedures being followed at the school, and generally parents were satisfied that their children were being cared for properly.

Characteristic of March weather, the

snowstorm subsided during the night and the morning light found roads opened and buses waiting to take the students home. After a good breakfast, the tired students climbed on the buses and were on the way home. Naturally the school was closed that day, but on Friday the basketball team was able to go to College Park.

Even though the team was not victorious, the students were not too disappointed because they had been through a couple of very exciting days and "Snowbound at Northern High" was an event they would remember for the rest of their lives.

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If you have a spring of water to wall or cement up, try a large tile, cheaper and better than cement or stone; have them any size up to 24 inches.

# *Local Resorts Host State Teachers' Association Meetings*

*by Alice Eary*

During the heydays of Deer Park and Mountain Lake Park, accommodations were as fine as anywhere in the state of Maryland. In addition to beautiful scenery and a healthful and exhilarating climate of Garrett County, there were commodious hotels and a large auditorium with a seating capacity of 5,000 in

Mountain Lake Park. Reasonable railroad rates were available from all parts of the state, and affordable hotel and cottage rates were offered in "The Park" (Mountain Lake). It was with pride that Garrett County hosted the teachers of Maryland for their MSTA (Maryland State Teachers' Association) meeting during the



Deer Park Hotel—sight of 1885 and 1896 MSTA Conventions.





**Mountain Lake Hotel accommodated West Virginia State Teachers' Association in 1888, 1901, 1902; and MSTA in 1888, 1909.**

summer of 1885 and at least three additional times.

About 200 teachers convened at Deer Park for the Annual State Teachers' Convention July 9, 1885. The president, after a brief address, introduced Judge H. W. Hoffman of Cumberland. The Judge congratulated the teachers on their selection of Deer Park, whose beauties he described in vivid and picturesque language. The two days of talks and meetings ended with a ball at the Hotel.

The excellent facilities of Mountain Lake Park enticed teachers of the West Virginia association as well as those of Maryland. In the summer of 1888 the two associations met in Mountain Lake Park for an unprecedented combined meeting. The following excerpt from *The Republican*, March 13, 1902, indicates that the West Virginia teachers returned to

Mountain Lake Park in 1901 and again in 1902.

The West Virginia State Educational Association will again hold its third annual meeting at Mountain Lake Park. It is called for the first three days of July. They thoroughly enjoyed the Park last summer, and in view of the rare facilities offered by the splendid buildings, the desire was unanimous to return again. This meeting is destined to become one of the annual features of Mountain Lake Park. Prof. Thomas C. Miller, State Superintendent of West Virginia, is very enthusiastic over the outlook for this year's gathering. Hundreds of earnest teachers will be present and plans are already maturing for an unusually attractive and brilliant program.

The forty-second annual meeting of the Maryland State Teachers' Association opened in Mountain Lake Park



**Loch Lynn Hotel accommodated 1909 guests in cooperation with Mountain Lake Park Hotel.**

in 1909 with much enthusiasm. For the first 48 hours Maryland educators arrived by every westbound train that labored up the 17-mile grade between Piedmont and Altamont.

The Loch Lynn and Mountain Lake Park Hotels are the joint headquarters of the convention, the Loch Lynn being the headquarters for the State and the Mountain Lake of the executive officers. Governor Crothers is expected. . . .

Carriages and coaches are kept busy carrying guests between the two hotels for gay interchange of calls. Already 313 members of the association are registered as arrived or coming and the committee anticipates that the attendance this year will exceed that of previous seasons. (*The Republican* July 1, 1909)

The meeting, with 566 members present, had the largest attendance in the history of the Association at that time. Garrett County Superintendent

E. A. Browning delivered an address of welcome after which State Superintendent M. Bates Stephens gave an opening address. A number of other prestigious educators were included in the program. Some of them were the following: Dr. George B. Strayer, Teachers' College, Columbia University; John D. Worthington, president, Harford County School Board; Miss Isabel Davisdon, Towson; Miss Hannah A. Coale, State Normal School; Miss Nan L. Mildren, Frederick; Mr. Dandridge Murdaugh, Frostburg; Dr. Wilcox, State Normal School; His Excellency, Austin L. Crothers, Governor of Maryland; Prof. Joseph H. Saunders, president, Virginia State Teachers' Association; Dr. D. B. Purinton, president, West Virginia State University; Mr. J. Montgomery Gambrell, Department of History, Polytechnic Institute. The Ionic Lady Quartet from Baltimore provided music.

# Oakland Accessions

*November 2006 - January 2007*

- Early Parian Ware vase, belonged to Adeline Sincell Ruckert, Kaese's Mill hammer head, small metal coffee pot that belonged to the grandmother of Adeline Sincell Ruckert, 1800s forged fireplace hook, given in memory of Bob and Adeline Ruckert, WWII Christmas greeting sent to Eva Decker from her husband, WWII toy gun, egg cup from the old Rowan board and batten house on Water Street, "Good for one stop" ticket.....*gifts from Bob and Leanna Boal*
- Crewelwork purse.....*gift from Dessie Bowman*
- Sheet music, "Comin' in on a Wing and a Prayer" ..... *gift from Lt. Col. William O. Tracey*
- Overlook Inn postcard ..... *gift from Floyd Murphy*
- 1932 Oakland High School picture, 1912 – 1952, list of Oakland High School graduates ..... *gifts from Claudia Calhoun*
- WWI cotton Army jacket, wool Army jacket, cotton cap, canvas carrying case, wool hat, canvas leggings, canvas pants, canvas vest, metal helmet, drinking cup, mess kit, gas mask, satchel, notice for Army physical, two Red Cross bags, Bible, ID, wax seal, box of medals, tablet, two large bullets, one small bullet, Crucifix, black suitcase, and mirror in canvas case. These items belonged to Charlie Browning ..... *gifts from the Alice Sisler family*
- 1938 Oakland High School Class Reunion booklet. Vote No Question "A" poster, 1961 R&P Firestone Store booklet, Dept. of Geology, Mines and Water Resources booklet, Rev. Rittenhouse phone circle, Maryland booklet, two Brenneman's Store sales pads, Mabel's Beauty Salon phone circle, 1974 Garrett County booklet..... *gifts from Ivan and Mabel Rowe*
- Ginseng roots and plant pictures ..... *gifts from Tom Shaffer*
- Vindex, Western MD train picture, Davis, WV Mill & Log pond postcard, and Henry, WV, postcard ..... *gifts from Kevin Callis*
- Garrett County Courthouse postcard ..... *gift from Wayne Johnson*
- Wonderly Dairy bottle, ten pictures of the Wonderly farm, two Pleasant Valley Bible Fellowship pictures ..... *gifts from Edna Wonderly*
- Deer Park Hotel dinner knife ..... *gift from Nancy Dawson Bolden*
- Postcards: Table Rock, Casselman Bridge, GC hunting. Savage Mountain, Friendsville, GC winter, Oakland, Our Father's House, Herrington Manor, Swallow Falls, and Deep Creek Lake, ..... *gifts from Alice Eary*



- WWII watch found in France ..... *anonymous gift*  
 Christmas lights with box.....*gift from Loretta Smith*  
 Mt. Lake Park Camp Meeting Plate ..... *anonymous gift*  
 Col. J. Haig Jackson medals and name plate..... *gifts from Larry Corner*  
 Coal miner's canary cage, B&O whistle, two B&O pen knives, Royal  
 Blue headrest, Garrett Park B&O ticket, 1919 Dialogues and Plays  
 for Country Schools booklet and 1867 B&O "Express Freight Line"  
 freight bill .....*gifts from Bob Shaffer*  
 DeWitt and DeBerry, Sharps Motor Co., Kelly's Appliance and Furniture  
 Store, and The H-P Stores yard sticks..... *gifts from Gretchen Shaffer*

## *2006 Donations to Grantsville Community Museum*

- Leo J. Beachy Book, Letters and pictures for Isabelle ....*gift of Linda Holliday*  
 Pitcher, bowl, chamber pot, H.C. Bonig plate and Maryland  
 sheet music, sheep shears.....*gift of Maxine Broadwater*  
 Registration Podium from Winterberg-Newman Funeral  
 Home..... *gift of Lynn Newman*  
 Memorial Cap "A Grateful Nation WW II Vets  
 1941 - 1945" .....*gift of Donna Sipple*  
 Quilt Stand .....*gift of Sue Crossland*  
 4 Cast Iron Banks.....*gift of Paul & Geri McKenzie*  
 Framed photo of Eli Stanton ..... *gift of James E. Cramer*  
 Plate of H.C. Bonig Store; Photo of Jake  
 Bender Store .....*gifts of Shirley Bender & Betty Spence*  
 Shady Mill dairy milk bottle; 5 Leo J. Beachy Postcards ...*gift of Mike Glover*  
 1989 Savage River U.S.A. Cap, Stanton's Mill cap, Hagan Grantsville  
 creamery cottage cheese container .....*gift of Randy & Wendy Broadwater*  
 Photo of Clarence & Peter Miller, Morticians, taken in front of Jennings  
 Store-1906; Photo of men working on Stone Arch Bridge, Receipt  
 from National Casket Co.- \$94.00 ..... *gift of Warren Miller*  
 First State Bank Money Bag, National Pike Festival Poster  
 May 20-21, 1989, Poster 1989 "Savage Thunder" ....*gift of Fred Holliday*

- Corporate Seal of Grantsville Creamery.....*gift of Robert Durst*
- Pottery jug, food grinder, corn planter, sadirons and trivet, tin cup, corn husker, cow bell, shoe last, cast iron toy wagon and horses, 11 Wheaton historical flasks .....*gift of Paul & Gerri McKenzie*
- Collection of local books. Photos of the First Methodist Church in Grantsville, Photos of Old Water Tower, Locker Plant, Jennings Bros. Train, Early deeds 1868 & 1878. *Baltimore Weekly Newspaper* 1855, 1856, 1859 .....*gift of Joyce Beachy Sharlis*
- Trophy won by Sue Bowers for horse shoe competition.....*gift of Sue Bowers*
- Collection of Sheet Metal Tools, Pipe Reamer,  
Pipe Threader.....*gift of Dale Kinsinger*
- Grain Cradle ..... *gift of Sylvia Platter*
- Framed Photo of Aaron and Catherine Beachy...*gift of Evelyn Beachy Hewitt*
- Framed Civil War Veteran's Obituary, messenger boy on Gen. Williams Jones Raid 1865.....*gift of Julie Wilburn*
- Single Tree, miner's pick, miner's shovel, horse hames,  
carbide light .....*gift of Earleena Tressler*
- 5 Post Card Pictures of National Hotel being torn down and newspaper article 1984.....*gift of Shirley Bender*
- Crocheted Coverlet 1920, Photo-Chris  
Lichty ..... *gift of Cindy Stanton & Ferne Beachy*
- Collection of tools.....*gift of Maxine Broadwater*
- Indian Arrowhead Collection, antique bottles, banks, ink wells, antique clock, McGuffey Readers, school desk and bench, hooked rug, school slate, easel, picture of George Washington, Slave and his step-grandchildren.....*gift of Paul & Gerri McKenzie*
- Collection of Markle Stanton estate photos, deeds and  
genealogy .....*gift of James E. Creamer*
- Scythe, whetstone, grass cutter, reversed painting  
on glass .....*gift of Earleena Tressler*
- Hat pin holder, 8 Sherbet dishes and plates, pictures of  
Joel A. & Sara Etta Beachy .....*gift of June Beachy Beckett*
- Hubert M. Bowman milk bottle, McHenry, MD .....*gift of Charles Bowman*
- Happy Hills card board milk bottle, Queen City  
milk bottle .....*gift of Earleena Tressler*
- Post card collection of Leo J. Beachy .....*gift of Joyce Beachy Shavlis*
- World War II hats, neck ties, backpack, 1955 *Life Magazine*,  
U.S. America Plate.....*gift of James W. Holman III*

- Band director's hat, cap and gown, baton, 24 North Star  
yearbooks ..... *gift of Sally Schwing*
- Portfolio of Aza Stanton, six Lithographs Collectors Edition 1972; Large  
Framed Photo of 1940 Graduating class of Grantsville  
High School..... *gift of Lynn Patton*
- Pulpit from New Germany Methodist Mt. Beulah Church,  
one of the Twin Churches of New Germany,  
Milk testers dipper ..... *gift of Wayne Durst*

## *Artifacts Loaned 2006*

- Grandfather Clock made by Olen Miller..... *Lynn Patton*
- Casselman Motor Ashtray, Postcard of Grantsville Fire Dept..... *Robert Leece*
- Reamer for Barrels..... *Jake Beitzel*
- Braddock Road Artifacts..... *Robert Bantz*
- First United Bank Artifacts..... *Ruth Newman*
- Tool Collection ..... *Olen Rembold*
- Antique Hat Boxes, Vase, Lace Gloves..... *Earleena Tressler*
- Cast Iron & Tin Toys, School Bell, Cast Iron Cooking  
Utensils..... *Maxine Broadwater*
- Antique linen towels, plate holder, Black & Red Fabric..... *Sue Crossland*
- National Road Markers, Wash Stand, Blue Plate ..... *Oakland Museum*
- Rambler Rose Quilt ..... *James Wilburn*
- National Hotel Register 1905-1906 ..... *Judith Miller*

## *Monetary Donations 2006*

- |                   |                    |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Joseph Weaver     | Richard Towers     | Jack Smouse       |
| Karen Green       | Bob & Leanna Boal  | Mayor & Town      |
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| Barbara Baker     | Fred Holliday      | Grantsville       |
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| Constance Beachy  | Elk Ridge          | Kenneth Resh from |
| Hobby House Press | NatureWorks        | the Paine Family  |



# *Memorials*

**William H. & Helen  
Offutt Johnson**

Offutt & Joan Johnson

**William R. & Mary  
Humbird Offutt**

Offutt & Joan Johnson

**Martha Lou Ashby  
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**Landon Boal**

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*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$15 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only one copy of each of the four issues. All memberships are on a yearly basis, from July 1 through June 30.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, P.O. Box, 28, Oakland, MD 21550-0028



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### Books

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*History of Crellin*..... \$5.00

*Deep Creek, Past and  
Present* ..... \$10.00

*Deer Park, Then  
and Now*..... \$10.00

*44 Years of the Life of a  
Hunter*..... \$25.00

*Garrett County History* \$25.00

*Garrett County 125th Anniv.  
Photo Album*..... \$20.00

*Indian Camps and  
Other Stories* ..... \$5.00

*Once Upon a Mountain Top*....  
\$15.00

*150 Years of Oakland* .. \$20.00

*Flowery Vale—  
History of Accident*... \$15.00

*Garrett County  
by Al Feldstein*..... \$20.00

*The Western Maryland Railway  
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*Be'O Mug* ..... \$5.00

*Child's RR Cap*..... \$7.00

*Child's Metal Train*..... \$5.00

*Civil War Rifle Pen*..... \$4.00

*Set of 20 Civil War  
picture postcards*..... \$4.00

*Ruler with pictures of all the  
Presidents* ..... \$1.00

(Md. tax is .05%)

Consider a gift of a  
membership to the Garrett  
County Historical Society—  
\$15.00, which includes 4  
issues of the *Glades Star*.



# THE Glades ★ Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

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— Published by —  
THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 11, NO. 6

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

JUNE 2007



Its spinnaker bulging, a Flying Scot races before the wind.

# Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

**OFFICERS 2004-2005**

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## THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

## THE GLADES STAR

*PUBLISHED quarterly by the Society at Oakland, MD. Entered as Periodicals Postage Paid at the Post Office of Oakland, MD.*

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*POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Glades Star, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.*

*CORRESPONDENCE: Glades Star, P.O. Box 28, Oakland. MD 21550.*

# Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:

[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)

[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)

- *The Republican Newspaper:*  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)

- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)

- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)

- Society Museum in Oakland:  
 phone: 301-334-3226

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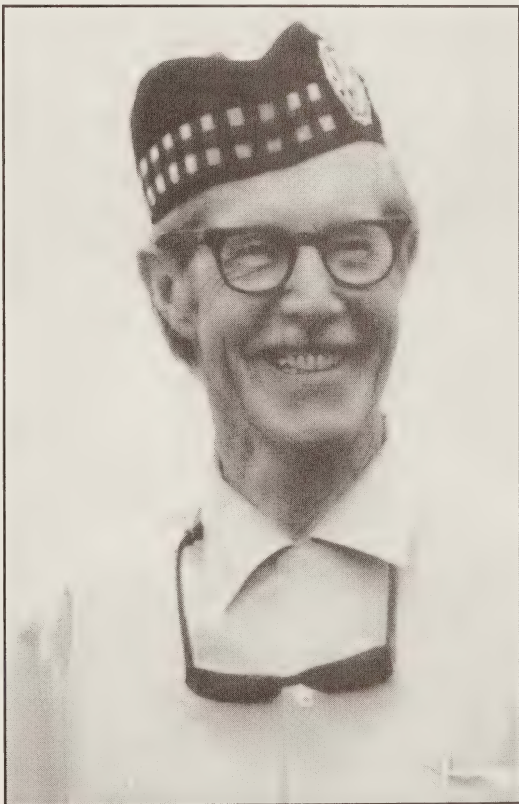
# *The Gordon Douglass Family and the Versatile "Flying Scot"*

The arrival of Gordon K. Douglass and his family in Garrett County during the late 1950s brought major changes in the whole pattern of sailing on Deep Creek Lake. By then Gordon "Sandy" Douglass was already internationally known for decades of designing and building small sailboats as well as for being a championship racing skipper. In 1957 Sandy decided the time had come for a "family sailer" to be designed specifically in fiberglass. This he soon accomplished and, as a result, changed family day sailing and racing.

When the Gordon Douglass Boat Company, Inc., opened on the corner of Third and Omar Streets in Oakland in 1958 the company was already a manufacturer of many well-known sailboats. Garrett County production of the new and versatile "Flying Scot" with its fiberglass hull and larger size brought about a local revolution in sailing. As the business grew, the company moved to larger quarters on the

outskirts of Deer Park. Sandy, being a national and international championship sailor, loved to give advice on sailboat maintenance and techniques of sailing. Flying Scots soon were seen and admired all over Deep Creek Lake as well as elsewhere.

After selling his company to Eric



Gordon "Sandy" Douglass in the 1970s.



GORDON DOUGLASS BOAT CO., Inc.  
OAKLAND, MARYLAND

## FLYING SCOT

### ORDER FORM

February 1, 1972

FLYING SCOT, complete less sails		\$ 2596.90
Includes all standing and running rigging, boom crutch, anodized aluminum gunwale molding, mooring eye, bow plate, mooring rings on transom, halyard winches, waterboard which harness ratchet blocks for jib and main sheets, stainless steel shrouds and jibstay with swaged terminals, two plastic hook-ers etc. Choice of colors:		7.50
REGISTRATION with Flying Scot Sailing Association		40.00
BOTTOM PAINT—Salt-water Vaseline anti-fouling		
SAILS—We will supply sails made by the maker of your choice. Best quality dacron jib and mainsail cost approximately \$25.00 and trapezoid approximately \$15.00		
CHOICE OF COLORS—		
HULL—We recommend white or light pastel color as being the most practical in use. If you will send us color samples to copy we can offer you almost any color or shade you desire for colorless and lack of fading. DUCK. We recommend light gray or a pale pastel color for years. Colors: red, blue, green, white and black. BOOT-TOP. This is an epoxy enamel which should last for years. Colors: red, blue, green, white and black.		
ACCESSORIES		
BOAT NAME—Hand lettered in paint or gold leaf—per 2" letter	1.50	
COCKPIT COVER—Of unheated nylon. Tent type over boom, closed forward, open aft. Installed	60.00	
New type of waterproofed cotton duck fits within cockpit and drains onto seats	31.50	
SPINNAKER POLE—Also used as whisker pole. Spruce with stainless snap sockets	40.00	
SPINNAKER RIG—Includes halyard and two sheets, each 30 ft. of 3/4" braided Dacron line. Brummel hooks, stay block for pole lift, two chain plate blocks, etc.	25.00	
EXTRA WINCH CRANKS	each 70	
LIFTING BRIDLE—Center ring with two stainless steel cables which fasten to mast stanchions and rear end of centerboard trunk	11.25	
TRAILER—Price on application.		
TIE-DOWN BAR, holds mast and boom on trailer	14.00	
OUTBOARD MOTOR BRACKET Installed	18.00	
LEE JACKET—Light and flexible, a really wearable jacket	25.00	
BUOYANT CUSHIONS, Kapok type, Coast Guard approved	5.00	
SCOTTISH BONNET—Genuine Glenvarrie	6.50	
NORTH-SEA ANCHOR, Type No. 3R	25.00	
ANCHOR LINE—100 ft. special hard-lyd 3/4" nylon	1.50	
INCLINOMETER—A practical gadget which shows the proper angle of heel	2.85	
BAILING SCOOP—Plastic	1.50	

DELIVERY—Short distances: Thirty cents per mile to destination by our trailer. Over 400 miles, flat rate. Ask for quotation.

FLIGHT DISCOUNT—On a fleet plan of three or more boats a 10% discount will apply to all prices except delivery. Please send a deposit of \$100 with your order. Normal procedure is payment of approximately one-third when the boat is built and the balance on delivery. Financing can be arranged.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE—Under the rules of the Flying Scot Sailing Association the FLYING SCOT is strictly one-design. It is built to the same specifications in construction or rigging. Our policy is to use the best materials available and to stand in back of our product. Nevertheless, we cannot warrant results beyond our control, such as the fading, chalking or cracking of our product.

## why the FLYING SCOT is a better buy

We may be biased, but we believe that the FLYING SCOT is the outstanding value in her field. It has been our purpose, right from the beginning, to create the best possible family racing boat. We are happy to say that in the course of establishing this reputation from coast to coast, the FLYING SCOT has become one of the major national classes.

In addition to being an outstanding performer, the FLYING SCOT also is one of the finest examples of fiberglass construction to be found. She is not a cheap boat, built to meet a price. She is a fine boat in every sense, the finest we know how to build. She is custom built for you, with patient care given to every detail, with the result that the finished product is unsurpassed for strength and durability and beauty.

First come the moulds. Our moulds are close to perfection. The hull comes out with no perfect finish that sanding and polishing are not needed. On the other hand, we take extra time, by means of a special technique, to give the deck a matte finish to make it less slippery and to reduce glare from the sun.

Many people seem to think that fiberglass is flammable. This is far from being true. The final result depends on the kind of fiberglass materials used, the number, type and thickness of the laminations, the skill of the workers and the quality standards of the builder. Some fiberglass boats have been so poorly made that they have cracked and come apart in their first season. A well-built fiberglass boat should outlast the best wooden boat.

Three basic types of fiberglass are used. The cheapest and poorest of these is mat which is made of short chopped-up strands of fiberglass. Sometimes blown on with a gun. Thickness control is difficult, thick and thin spots are common. The resulting boat will be lacking in tensile strength and impact resistance. Some of the poorer production boats are built essentially of nothing but mat.

The best forms of fiberglass for the purpose are cloth and woven roving, both of them being wovens of continuous filaments and strands of glass. These have several times the strength of mat, and they permit complete control of thickness. The FLYING SCOT uses four and five laminations. It is needed, to create an exceedingly strong and rigid hull and deck structure which has more than twice as much glass as that of some of her rivals and many times the strength. The hull of the FLYING SCOT, for example, has a total thickness of fiberglass of over 70 ounces of glass per square yard. Just see how the compares with the construction of that other boat!

Other features of the FLYING SCOT design and construction also contribute to her strength and longevity. It is the nature of fiberglass to be more flexible than wood of the same weight, and a fiberglass hull is bound to be more limber. This is proper to a degree but too much flexing will lead to fatigue and cracking. Some boat hulls are so thin they have to be stiffened with stringers, bulkheads and other rigid members. This can be dangerous because the rigid members create localized stress points.

In order to avoid such problems, the FLYING SCOT hull is open and free from end to end, with no rigid points. The hull can give as a unit. Instead, we create such a strong boat that such measures are not necessary. We do this by using a "sandwich" construction employing 1/2" thick balsa wood blocks. By spacing the layers of fiberglass we create a beam or girder construction which is so strong that further stiffening is completely unnecessary.

Why balsa? We believe that balsa wood is the best material for the purpose because it has excellent resistance and impact resistance combined with light weight. It will not crack and shatter under severe impact, as will some other core materials which are used.

Is there danger of water absorption? No. The balsa is completely sealed inside the fiberglass and resin, and each block is surrounded by resin to form what is actually a form of cellular construction. Such danger exists only where there is infiltration of glass to cover and seal the balsa. The FLYING SCOT has actually more glass both under and over the "sandwich" than many boats have in their entire hull.

Many boats are too lightly built for their own good in order to meet an unrealistic weight minimum. This is especially true of some of the wooden boats which have gone over to fiberglass construction. The SCOT, however, was first built the way we thought she should be built and the minimum weight was then established.

These are a few of the reasons for our saying that there is not a better value than the FLYING SCOT. Another very important reason is that the national Flying Scot Sailing Association is determined to keep her that way for your protection. This makes the FLYING SCOT a sound investment. Her quality construction means minimum upkeep for many years and an unequalled resale value.

This is why the FLYING SCOT has become a major national racing class with fleets from coast to coast. SCOTs now are being built in Canada. New fleets are being formed every year. She is the most promising family-racing boat of the day, and if her present rate of growth continues she soon will become one of the largest classes.



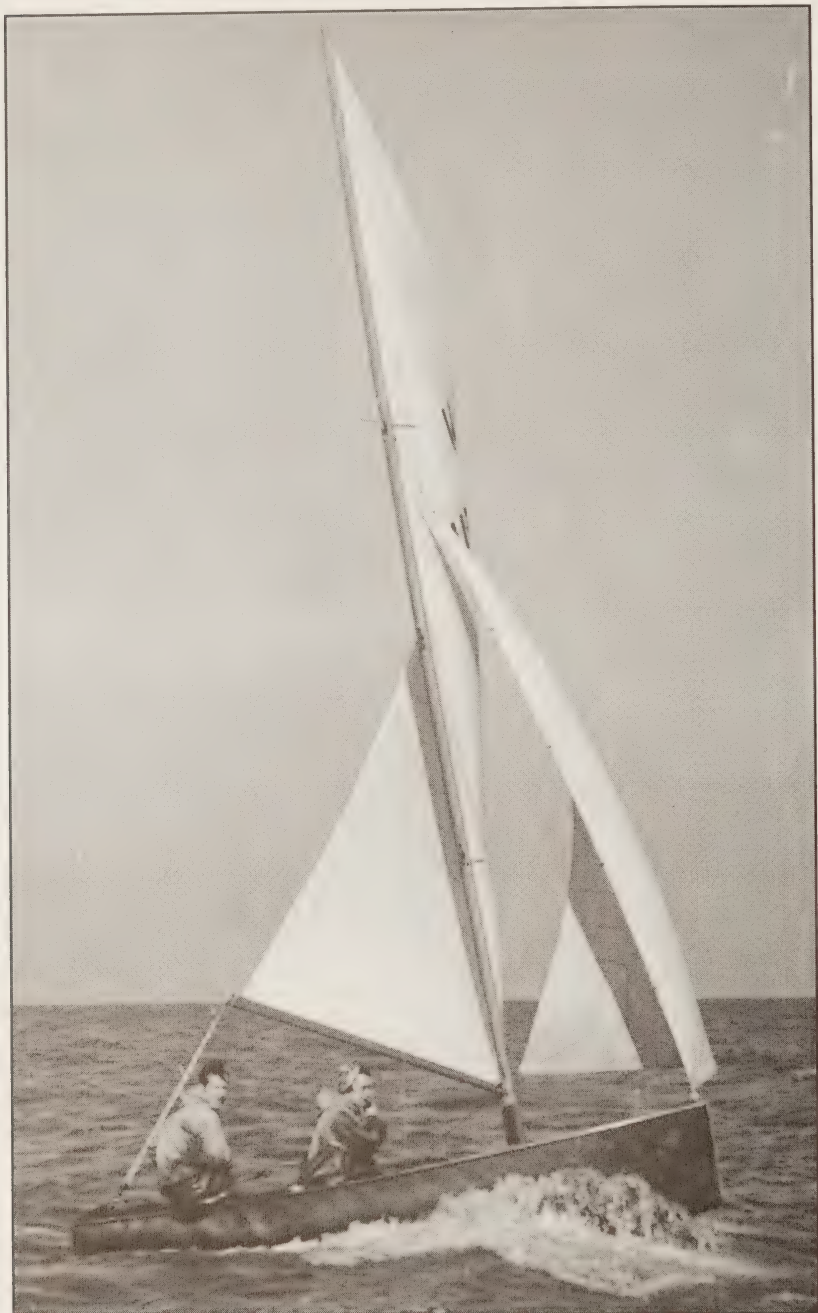
**Sandy and Mary Douglass, about 1980.**

Ammann of Deer Park more than 20 years ago, Sandy, his musically talented wife, Mary, and their son, Alan, moved to the Albuquerque, New Mexico, area. Sandy and Mary have since passed on, but Alan still happily resides in New Mexico, where he is active in art and music. Alan was featured on a magazine cover for a pedal steel guitar that he built.



**A Flying Scot cutting through the waves, probably on Lake St. Clair, Michigan/Ontario.**

The Garrett

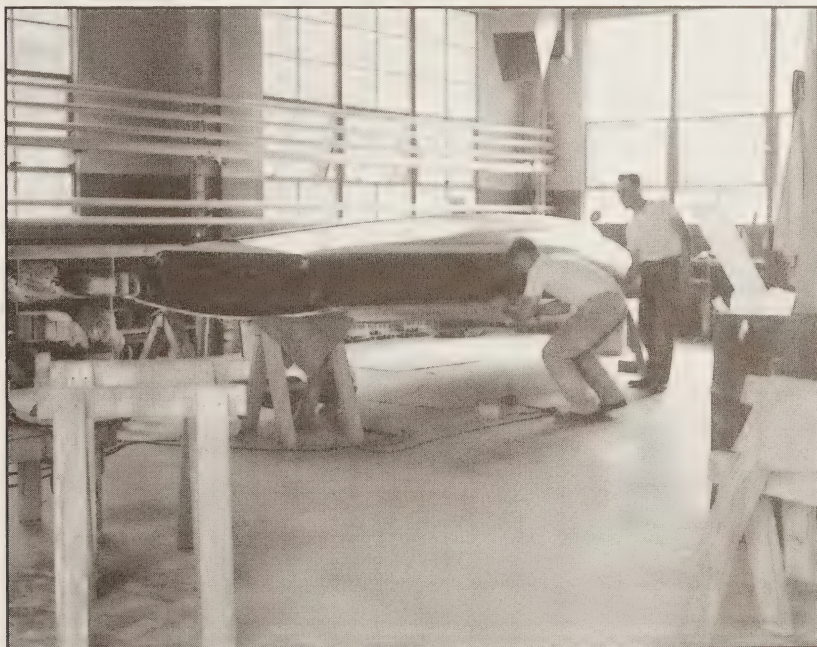


Sandy and Mary Douglass sailing "International 14," built by Sandy Douglass, about 1940.





Two Thistles, a Douglass design, and other boats on Deep Creek Lake about 1960.



Flying Scot assembly room, 3rd and Omar in Oakland.

County Historical Society is greatly indebted to Alan for large amounts of data and photos which have allowed the museum to create a "Dou-

glass/Flying Scot Exhibit." Another exhibit is planned for the windows of Oakland's Littman Building this summer.



A Flying Scot on Deep Creek Lake near the Yacht Club, ca. 1960s.

# *Partial List of Businesses Located Along the Rail- road and Second and Liberty Streets in Oak- land from 1875 to the Present*

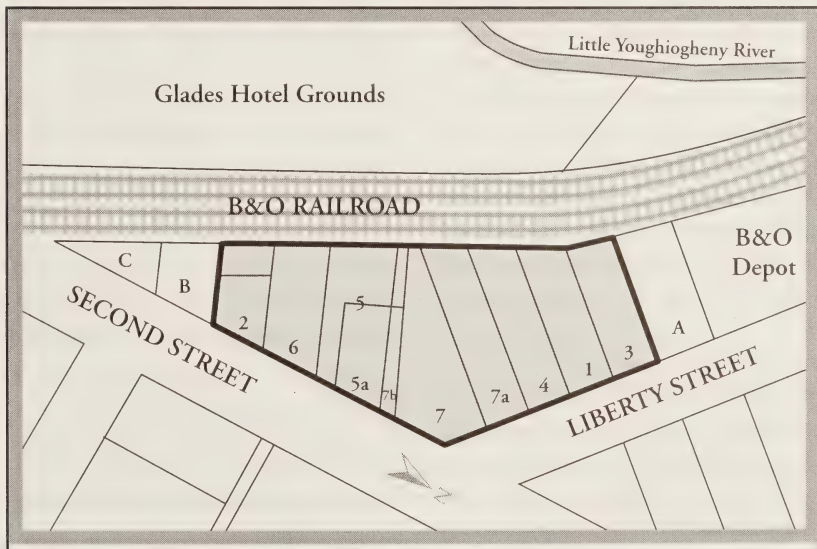
*by Robert Shaffer*

*Editor's Note: This is the last installment of Bob Shaffer's monumental, in-depth research on the history and disposition of properties in an area of downtown Oakland. The previous installments appeared in the June and September 2006 and March 2007 edi-*

*tions of The Glades Star. Refer the map for locations cited.*

## **PARCEL A**

Charles Sincell is believed to have erected the first building on this lot sometime between 1875 and 1885. It housed a number of businesses over





the years, including the Shey Hotel, J.M. Litzinger's confectionery store, a music shop, an ice cream shop, R.S. Jamison's Eureka Saloon (on the side nearest the depot), and the Railroad Street Restaurant operated by Walter Morrison. In 1898 Thomas Burke purchased the hotel and established Burke's Saloon on the hotel property. In 1901 Mr. Burke doubled the capacity of the hotel, extending it northward to Liberty Street. In 1906 Edward Frantz purchased the property and changed the name to the Frantz Hotel. The Railroad Street Restaurant continued to operate in the hotel under the proprietorship of W.V. Fairall and later (1909) by A.C. "Coonie" Whetsell. The hotel also housed a pool hall as well as a saloon.

Charles Sincell is also thought to have built the first structure on the north end of this property, fronting on Liberty Street. It is known that a building existed there when A.D. Naylor opened his blacksmith shop on the site in 1884. There are indications that Mr. Naylor may have assumed ownership of someone else's business at that time. In 1887 Mr. Naylor moved his shop from the "Sincell stand" to the property next door, after which the Frantz Hotel was extended to Liberty Street. In 1942 Ralph Pritts purchased this property from Mr. Frantz. By then the buildings here were apparently gone, and Mr. Pritts established a used car lot on the site. (The Pritts garage and Dodge dealership was located on the opposite side of Liberty Street.) In 1986 Hilda Pritts sold the property

to the "125 Club," the local Alcohol Anonymous organization, and a new buildings was erected.

### PARCEL 3

The first structure on this plot was likely built by John Richardson around 1880. The first known business on the railroad side—then Railroad Street—was a confectionery store and book stand. Mr. A.T. Matthews acquired the operation in 1896. The Warner and Co. Green Grocery also opened here on Railroad Street, in what was referred to as "Weber's old stand," in 1889. By 1900 there were two known businesses in the building along Railroad Street, a lunch room operated by Mr. Martin and Clyde Liller's barber shop next to the Schley Hotel, and within the following ten years a restaurant and ice cream parlor and a barber shop operated by C.H. Echard opened on Railroad Street.

On the Liberty Street side of this property Mr. George Richardson established a wagon-making shop sometime in the late 1700s or early 1800s. In 1887 A.D. Naylor moved his blacksmith shop to this location, expanding it to include the wagon-making shop. Two years later Mr. Naylor built a large new building along Liberty Street that eventually became Naylor's Hardware and Plumbing, which later expanded to the property next door to the south. A large fire totally destroyed Naylor's Hardware building in 1975, and the business was relocated to Third Street. The old location is presently a parking lot for Naylor employees and the paying public.

**PARCEL 1**

It is uncertain as to when the first building was erected on this property, but by the late 1880s Henry Felty was operating a green grocery in it on Railroad Street. He also carried a line of fruits and wild game. The building was then known as the Felty Building, and the dental office of Dr. John Robinson was located on the second floor.

The Felty Building on Railroad Street was also likely the site of J.D. Taggart's Confectionery store, later purchased by Thomas Little and expanded into a grocery business. In 1889 Mr. Little sold the store to A.C. "Coonie" Whitsell. In the 1890s this building contained a saloon on the south side and Hinebaugh's Restaurant on the north. Hinebaugh's Restaurant later relocated to the Opera House on the corner of Second and Green Streets.

By 1910 there was an ice house on this lot, situated midway between Railroad and Liberty Streets. Maps of Oakland dated 1910 and 1921 show no building on Liberty Street. A.D. Naylor purchased this property in 1921 for expansion of his hardware business. It is not known when the Felty Building ceased to exist, but the plot has been vacant and used for parking since the 1975 fire that destroyed Naylor's Hardware.

**PARCEL 4**

The Maryland Supply Company, dealers in fruits, vegetables, and groceries, and specializing in home delivery of goods, may well have been the first business established on

this property. It operated on Railroad Street in the 1890s.

In 1902 Darius Dixon and Ephriam Kelso acquired this property from Messrs. Jarboe and Landwehr and proceeded to establish a sizable grain and feed mill on Liberty Street. This building was later (1921) used as a warehouse for storing grain and dynamite. In 1935 Paul, Arthur, and Townshend Naylor purchased this property for further expansion of the Naylor business, but since the fire of 1975 the land has been used for parking.

**PARCEL 7A**

It is impossible to say when the first buildings were erected on this property. Maps dated 1910 and 1921 show two warehouses here, one on Railroad Street and one on Liberty Street. The one on Railroad Street held fertilizer, the one on Liberty, "dry goods." Around 1940 the Liberty Street structure was the site of Gibson's Lunch and Beer Tavern, which later became Bill's Barn restaurant. Browning's Inc. purchased the property in 1951 and rented it out. In the 1960s the Faulkner family established a restaurant there. It was damaged by the Naylor fire and ultimately torn down. There is no information on the Railroad Street building beyond its use as a fertilizer warehouse or when it ceased to exist.

In 1999 Brownings Inc. donated this vacant lot to the Garrett County Historical Society. It is presently used by the society as a parking lot.

**PARCEL 7**

This is a "pie shaped" property,

with very little frontage on Railroad Street where Wilson's Creek flows under the tracks. Although the Railroad Street end of this parcel was of little commercial value a barber shop existed overtop the creek in 1910 and a cobbler's shop in 1921. The identities of the barber and cobbler are unknown.

Reconstructing the history of this property fronting on Second and Liberty Streets is a somewhat confusing task. Mr. John Shartzter acquired this lot from Daniel Offutt in 1887. He apparently proceeded to erect a large building on the corner. There are a number of early advertisements regarding the Shartzter General Store and the Shartzter and Bolden furniture and funeral business. In 1897 Mr. Shartzter sold this property to DeCoursey Bolden but evidently retained ownership of the building. It is known from photographs and other sources that a one-story bowling alley existed on the corner of Second and Liberty at the turn of the century (1800-1900). And an article in a March 1901 issue of the *Mt. Democrat* states that "Bolden and West" were moving their bowling alley back from the corner and over along the south side of the property in order to make room for a new building on the corner. The 1910 map of Oakland shows the new bowling alley and also a sizable building on the corner in which there were three identified businesses: a saloon on the south end, a small shop in the middle, and a lunch room on the north end. From other sources it is determined that the saloon was

operated by John Sweeney and in later years by Frank Goss. The small business in the center was a barber shop operated by Mr. C.H. Echard, prior to his move to the former Clyde Liller barber shop on Railroad Street mentioned earlier.

In 1918 Harry Miller purchased this property. He operated Miller's Meat Market on the north end of the building and rented the southern end as a pool hall. In 1956 Earl Shartzter and William Naylor purchased the property. They continued the business as a meat market and grocery and retained the name of "Miller's Market." The south end of the building then became "Hub's Harness Shop," operated by Hub Swartzentruber. In 1978 Bradley Stewart purchased the property. He rented the first floor as a business and the second floor as an apartment house. IC Electronics was the occupant of the first floor when the building burned to the ground in 1999. In that same year Mr. Stewart sold the vacant lot to the Garrett County Historical Society. The society developed the lot into a small park, naming it "Dailey's Park" in honor of John Dailey, who had created the original Dailey's Park along Second and Liberty Streets in the 1860s.

#### PARCEL 5

Daniel Offutt acquired this property from John Shartzter in 1887 and one year later sold a portion of it (5a) to the Garrett County Bank, the first bank established in the Oakland area. Mr. Offutt also became the first president of the bank. He retained a portion of this property behind the



bank and built a storeroom building along Railroad Street. He rented this building to Mr. J. Forward for use as a confectionery store and to Mr. W. Dailey as a law office.

The Garrett County Bank later became the Garrett National Bank, and a new front was constructed along Second Street. In 1967 the bank relocated to the corner of Second and Green Streets, and the old bank building was sold to Dr. James Feaster. Dr. Feaster renamed it the "Professional Building" and it was occupied for a number of years by various doctors and lawyers. In 1985 the Professional Building was purchased by Dr. William Fedde, and 11 years later he sold it to the Garrett County Historical Society. The Garrett County Museum is now located on the first floor, and various occupants, including the Public Defender's Office and Burlington Family Services, rent offices on the second floor.

#### PARCEL 6

After purchasing this property from Mr. Dailey in 1881, Daniel Offutt built a large general store fronting both Railroad and Second Streets. The fire of 1898—the largest in the town's history—destroyed this building and six others along Railroad and Second Streets—everything between the bank and the railroad crossing. It also damaged some buildings on the opposite side of Second Street, including the Central Hotel, the J.M. Davis Hardware Store, and the Sincell Building.

After the fire Mr. Offutt acquired storeroom space in The Sincell Build-

ing across the street for his salvageable merchandise. He then operated his business out of this space for a year or so while constructing a new building on the site of the fire. A modern three-story brick building was completed in 1899, and "Offutt's Big Store" was reopened for business. The new building had a large auditorium/ballroom on the second floor, which was used for multiple community events. A single story attachment along the north wall of the building afforded rental space for other merchants. Mr. Offutt maintained a thriving business here until 1945 when he sold the property, including the small parcel behind the bank building, to Irvin and Mary Rudy, presently the site of Rudy's clothing store and the Book Mark'et.

#### PARCEL 2

After acquiring this property from John Dailey in 1877, George Legge divided it into two lots, one fronting Railroad Street, the other, Second Street. He constructed a storeroom on the Second Street property, but it is not known whether he built anything on the Railroad Street property. Both properties were the sites of a number of businesses over the years:

Railroad Street Property - In 1895 Mr. Bernard Reynolds purchased this property and may have erected the first building thereon. James J. Reynolds, apparently Bernard's son, then established the Reynolds Cafe and Saloon on the site. This saloon was the origin of the devastating fire that consumed seven buildings along Second and Railroad Streets in July

1898. James Reynolds immediately constructed a new building here and later that same year opened the J.J. Reynolds Cafe and Saloon. The new facility had a billiards room on the first floor and "private drinking parlors upstairs for people who need to drink for medicinal purposes."

Ownership of the saloon changed hands several times over the next 15 years. In 1901 it was known as the Oakland Saloon and Pool Hall, with Thomas White as proprietor. At that time Joseph Martin also operated a restaurant on this site, with a private dining room upstairs. In 1905 Mr. Floyd Lee purchased the saloon and pool hall, and after operating it for two years sold it to James Clark. In 1912 Mr. Clark sold the business to Truman West, who operated the West Saloon on this site for many years. In 1939 the property was sold to William and Harriett Gonder. (William's full name was William Andrew Gonder—always called "Andy." He was a brother of Bernard "BI" and Thomas "Tom" Gonder.) The Gonders converted the building into Gonder's Restaurant, adding a magnificent stone fireplace built by Andy Gonder. The restaurant eventually closed and the space was unoccupied for a number of years. It was later reopened as the Fireside Restaurant.

In 1970 Marvin Jones purchased this property. He rented the building out as a restaurant on the first floor, with an apartment on the second floor. In 1994 when a Chinese Restaurant was operating on the site, the building was severely damaged by

a fire that destroyed two buildings on the south side. The dilapidated building, with the fireplace still intact, remained vacant until Mr. Jones donated the property to the Town of Oakland, which had the building razed and established a small park in its place. The fireplace remains as a landmark.

#### SECOND STREET PROPERTY

As previously stated, George Legge built a storeroom building on this property in the late 1800s. He then rented store space on Second Street. In the 1890s this was occupied by the Connell and Crane Millinery Shop and the D. Durst Shoe Shop. In 1897 Mr. Legge sold this property to James and Maria Litzinger. James was editor of the *Mt. Democrat* newspaper and used the second floor of this building as his printing office and plant. Thereafter the building was referred to alternately as the Litzinger building or the Democrat building. The millinery and shoe shops still occupied the first floor.

The fire of 1898 completely destroyed the Litzinger building and the *Mt. Democrat* printing equipment. After the fire *The Republican* newspaper generously offered space and its printing equipment to Mr. Litzinger so he could continue producing the *Mt. Democrat*. His new building, with all new printing equipment on the second floor, was completed in December 1899. The first floor was available for rent and was soon occupied by Robinson's Cash Yankee Notions Store and Gortner's General Store. By 1910 Robinson's had closed

and Thomas Gonder had opened a drug store in the building. At that time the building also housed the Casteel Saloon. In 1912 Mr. Gonder negotiated a deal with Charles Liller, who was operating a barber shop in the newest Ravenscroft building near the railroad crossing. Mr. Gonder and Mr. Liller traded spaces, and the Charles Liller Shaving Saloon began operating in the Litzinger building. A 1921 map of the town shows that the barber shop still occupied the space on the south side of the building at that time, and a general store was then on the north side.

In the 1930s the Bitner and Stahl Barber Shop succeeded Charles Liller's Shaving Saloon. After several years this business was succeeded by John Forman's barber shop and then Bill Kelley's barber shop. More recently this was the location of the Clipper Ship Beauty Salon and Amy's Place beauty salon.

#### PARCEL B

Louis B. Randall likely erected the first building on this property sometime in the 1880s. In 1887 Mr. Randall sold a building and dwelling on this site, and at that time the building was occupied by the DTE Casteel Drug Store. It may also have been the site of E.G. Hyde's Jewelry Store, which was in operation in the mid-1800s along Railroad Street opposite the Glades Hotel. There is no record as to who purchased the building, but the property, as well as Mr. Randall's adjoining property on the south side, was sold to Henry Mayers in 1891. It is possible that Mr. Mayers purchased

the buildings prior to acquiring the land. At any rate, Mr. Mayers subsequently established his own drug store on the property—likely the former DTE Casteel business.

In 1893 Mr. Mayers divided the property he had purchased from Mr. Randall. He then sold the present parcel on the north side, including the drug store, to George Clauson. This same property was subsequently sold at public auction to Dr. Robert A. Ravenscroft in 1896. At that time the building was the site of the Oakland Pharmacy. Its proprietor, Joseph E. Harned, resided on the second floor. This building was one of those destroyed in the 1898 fire, and, afterward, Mr. Harned moved his drug store across the street to Dr. Henry McComas' building, next door to the Sincell building.

Dr. Ravenscroft immediately began plans for rebuilding on the site of the fire. By the following year the new "Ravenscroft Building" was ready for occupancy with multiple store fronts on the first floor, both on Railroad Street and Second Street. Professional office space was available on the second floor. One of the first occupants of the new building was apparently J.H. Barlow, who opened a cigar factory on the first floor. Over the next two decades a number of businesses were located in the Ravenscroft Building, including Cropps Grocery on the south side along Second Street. This store later became Treacy's Grocery. Other businesses included W.S. Martin's Jewelry Store, David Stevens and Son Confectionery, and a



Toys and Notions Store. By the 1920s Gonder's Bon Ton confectionery store and ice cream parlor, a music store, and a pool hall, among others, had opened here on Second Street.

The building's second floor was equally busy. The Garrett County Telephone Company was one of the early occupants along with the law offices of William Offutt, Julius Renninger, and Gilmore S. Hamill and the dental offices of Drs. Bartlett and Bixler.

Dr. Ravenscroft sold this property, as well as the adjoining property to the south, in 1921 to William, Frances, and Thomas Gonder. Thereafter the building was commonly referred to as the Gonder Building. The Gonder family continued to operate a drug store/soda fountain/newsstand here for many years. Other businesses on the site included a restaurant and a pool hall.

In 1970 Harriett Gonder sold the property to Marvin Jones, who established a men's clothing store there. He also continued to rent a portion of the store front on the north side of the building to, among others, Carroll Miller's Sport Shop, the Fireside Bar and Restaurant, P.C's Restaurant, and a Chinese restaurant. The building, as stated earlier, was totally destroyed by the 1994 fire, forcing Marvin's Men's Wear—then managed by Marvin's son, Jack, to move across the street to the former First National Bank Building.

#### PARCEL C

In 1893, when Henry Mayers divided his property into two parcels,

he sold the southern portion to William H. Malette. At that time the parcel apparently had some type of existing structure. It is known that Mr. Malette was operating a jewelry store and green grocery on this site as early as 1895. It is also known that Mr. Malette constructed a brand new two-story building on this property in 1897. The new building had three storefronts along Second Street. These spaces were occupied by John Felty, Jr.'s, general store, Morris Cohen's tailor shop, and H.C. Smouse's jewelry store. In addition, Miss Sue Spindler opened a seamstress business on the second floor. This new building, unfortunately, was lost in the 1898 fire. John Felty moved his store to the Felt Building, Mr. Cohen moved his tailor shop to a space above Nelson's meat market on Alder Street, and Mr. Smouse moved his jewelry store to the Central Hotel.

By the time of the fire, Mr. Malette had moved to Pittsburgh and had no interest in investing further in Oakland. The next year Dr. Robert Ravenscroft purchased Mr. Malette's vacant lot at public auction and had a small building moved there from Alder Street. By 1903 this building was being used as a tailor shop, likely the one operated by John Bergman, "The Merchant Tailor." Sometime within this decade the little building was moved again to a place behind the Garrett County Bank.

Dr. Ravenscroft then proceeded to erect a new building on the lot by the railroad crossing. It had four store fronts on Railroad and Second Streets.

By 1910 this new building was occupied by—from the railroad crossing northward—a fruit market, a jewelry store (likely the one owned by William A. Wortman), a confectionery store, and Liller's Shaving Saloon. In 1912 Mr. Liller traded business sites with Thomas Gonder. At that time the shaving saloon moved to the Litzinger Building and Mr. Gonder moved his drug store to the Ravenscroft Building. By this time both of Dr. Ravenscroft's new buildings were apparently being referred to jointly as "The Ravenscroft Building," which complicates the task of determining which businesses were in each building. However, a 1921 map of Oakland reveals clearly that four businesses were then operating in the latest Ravenscroft building—again, from the railroad crossing northward—a cobbler shop, a men's clothing store, a jewelry store, and a drug store (likely still operated by Thomas Gonder).

In 1921 Dr. Ravenscroft sold his property to William, Francis, and Thomas Gonder, and it remained in the Gonder family for the next 50 years. During this time a number of businesses operated in this building, most notably the Gonder Insurance Agency. Others included a 5 & 10 variety store. Varsity Maid restaurant and taxi stand operated by Emile Germaine, and the Youthland store.

In 1971 Kathryn Gonder sold this property to James Helbig, who was then the owner/manager of the Gonder Insurance Agency. The insur-

ance business had grown so that the Agency was occupying most of the building, but a least one store front was still available for rent. This space was last occupied by Presentations gift shop. Unfortunately this building was destroyed by the 1994 fire. At this time Jim Helbig's son, Terry, had taken over management of the insurance agency, and after the fire he immediately began to rebuild. Today a beautiful brick building, occupied entirely by Gonder Insurance, stands on the site of the former Ravenscroft building.

*Author's note: Compiling this list of businesses over a span of approximately 125 years was a nearly impossible task. In the process a number of other businesses were identified as having existed in this area at various times, but their exact locations could not be determined. Such businesses included Rhodes Restaurant, E.F. Stansberry's boot and shoe-making shop, Randy Gibson's barber shop, Harnes confectionery, and Cheap John Michaels store, all known to exist along Railroad Street in the late 1800s. Two other establishments, William Nydeggar's drug store and Louisa Taggart's "Garrett House," were advertised as being in operation at "Main and Railroad Streets" in 1889. Additionally it is acknowledged that numerous errors and omissions undoubtedly exist in this presentation. The author would greatly appreciate any additions or corrections that might be offered. Please direct any such additional information to the Garrett County Historical Museum.*

# *Dangerous Road Curves*

*by John A. Grant*

When it was built in 1914, the road running from Keyser's Ridge to Oakland was called "The State Road." Automobiles moved slower in those days, and it was hailed as a good road even though it had a lot of curves. As the speed of automobile travel increased some of the curves became very dangerous. Two of them between McHenry and Accident were very dangerous and a lot of wrecks occurred on them at night for drivers unfamiliar with the route.

Locally these two curves were known as Sebold's Curve and Alexander's Curve. Sebold's Curve was about

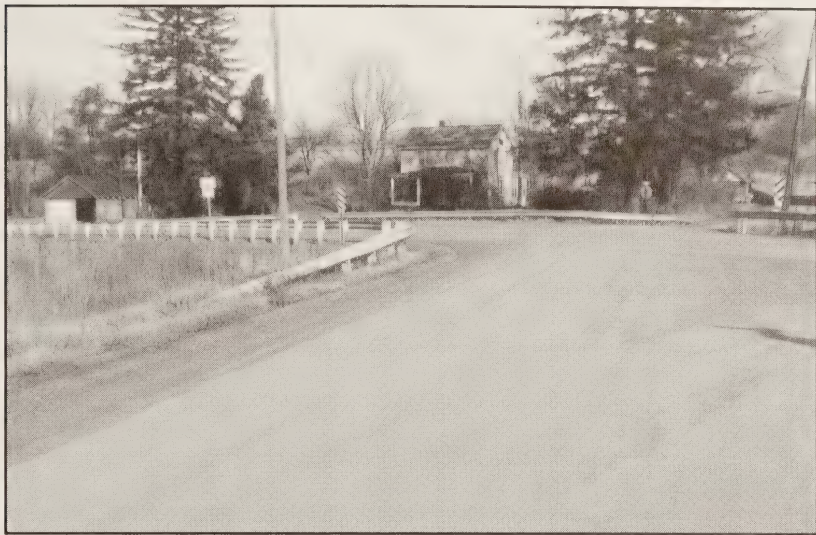
4 miles north of McHenry toward Accident and Alexander's Curve about 7 miles north of McHenry. (Alexander's really wasn't a curve, but the intersection of the State Road with a county road; drivers had to make a sharp left turn at the intersection, and there were often ones who missed it and hit the Alexander's front porch steps.)

When the road was built, the accepted design was to ease the steepness of grades which resulted in a number of curves to achieve the less steep grades. This was all right at a time when cars and trucks moved slowly, but a gradual increase in speed pro-



Sebold's Curve, just beyond the two trees in the foreground. The road in the foreground is Rt. 42 just north of the Rt. 219 intersection.





**Alexander's Curve at the Bumble Bee Rd./Spear Rd. intersection.**

duced the hazard to vehicles rolling out of one curve and into another, sometimes in the opposite directions. The result was that loads shifted and the vehicle went out of control, running off the road.

Shifting load is what is believed to have been the cause of one accident on Sebold's Curve. A truck came around part of the curve to the intersection of the curve with a farm road; the driver lost control of the truck and smashed into the Sebold's barn. It was thought that the driver momentarily felt he was all the way around the curve when he got to the small intersection, straighten the steering wheel and then started to turn again which caused the truck's load to shift—and off the road he went.

At Alexander's Curve there were two straight pieces of highway that intersected with a very short curve connecting them at the intersection;

unwary drivers came to the intersection with too much speed; result — off the road! and sometimes with disastrous results.

Ironically, the owners moved the house back, away from the highway; two nights later, a speeding car ran across the lawn and rammed into the side of Alexander's garage, damaging a brand new Plymouth automobile.

Fortunately, the State Road Commission inaugurated a massive "new location and realignment" program in Garrett County following WW II. Most of the dangerous curves were eliminated, but here and there a few which require a lot of caution.

Surprisingly, a part of Sebold's Curve is still used, although the grade and curvature have been reduced. The country road which used to intersect the curve is now a part of County Route #42.

# *Crellin Elementary Corps of Discovery*



**Postcard of Crellin in 1912.**

Students at Crellin Elementary School were awarded the President's Environmental Youth Award on April 20, 2007, in Washington, D.C. Their Environmental Education Laboratory project was one of ten recipients of the national award. The Environmental Education Laboratory at Crellin School is the students' own outdoor classroom. It was created when students found acid mine drainage flowing into Snowy Creek behind the school, and a stream restoration project started.

Since 2003 students have participated in stream cleanup projects, built bat boxes, maintained a native butterfly garden, and conducted research on birds in the area. They have helped to restore the riparian buffer

with native vegetation and monitored stream quality by conducting chemical and biological testing. The school has adopted green practices that have earned Crellin School the privilege of being recognized as a Maryland Green School. Students conducted oral histories to learn about the history of Crellin when it was a lumber and coal mining community. A history themed recreation area was built by students and community members in 2005.

A boardwalk has recently been built over the natural wetlands in the Lab. This will allow students to explore and understand the importance of wetlands in the ecosystem. Currently, students are working with plant experts and environmental educators to prepare information and



**Crellin Elementary School students in Washington, D.C., April 18-20, 2007 to receive the President's Environmental Youth Award. Front row: Colten Holland, Kenzie McCauley, Wyatt Sanders, Sheri Sisler, Zackary Gidley, Melanie Ashby. Back row: Mrs. Rebecca Sanders, Karley Gibson, Dakota Strawser, Keith Chapman, Briana Craig, Dylan Dawson, Brian Rinker, John Zimmerman, Kiana Alexander, Dr. Dana McCauley.**

photos for a field guide to be used by Crellin students and students from other schools. Students are using Global Information Systems (GIS) technology to develop a map of the history themed recreation area, the Lab, and the stream restoration site. All of these experiences have given students and the entire community a sense of place and have taught individuals to appreciate their heritage and care for the environment.

The fifth grade students at Crellin School represented all students, parents, community organizations, and local and state agencies which assisted in the development of the Environmental Education Lab and history themed recreation area during ceremonies in Washington, D.C., on

April 18, 19 and 20. The students participated in an EPA Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, joined other PEYA winners from around the nation for a bus tour of monuments, toured the U.S. Capitol Building with members of Senator Ben Cardin's staff, and met with House of Representatives member Roscoe Bartlett to explain their project at Crellin Elementary School.

#### **STUDENT REFLECTIONS**

Fifth grade students from Crellin Elementary School who traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept the President's Environmental Youth Award shared that it was a trip they will always remember. Students were impressed with the many forms of transportation they experienced in the



city. The Metro system in Washington was very exciting. Keith Chapman liked a very tall escalator at one of the Metro stations. Kenzie McCauley and Karley Gibson thought a taxi ride through the city was interesting. Kiana Alexander and Zackary Gidley were thrilled to ride in a limousine that transported students to the President's Environmental Youth Awards Ceremony.

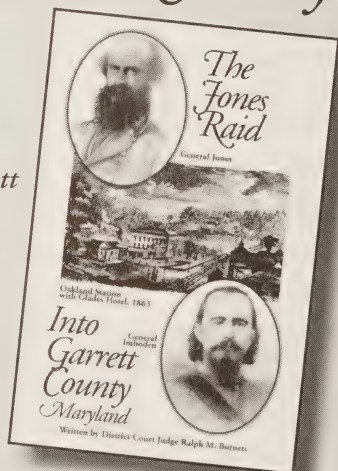
Students were in Washington, D.C., for three days. For some students it was their first time away from home without their parents. Brian Rinker enjoyed eating new foods in fancy restaurants. Briana Craig and Sheri Sisler appreciated the beautiful hotel rooms. John Zimmerman thought that it was interesting to meet students from the other nine regions in the United States who had won the award.

Dylan Dawson especially enjoyed the tour of monuments in Washington, D.C. He commented that he will always remember the phrase on one monument that said, "Freedom Is Not Free." Colten Holland said he liked seeing the many exhibits at the Museum of Natural History, especially the dinosaur bones.

Melanie Ashby appreciated Congressman Roscoe Bartlett because he invited students into his office to rest for a while and took time from his busy schedule to learn about their Crellin project. Dakota Strawser said that he was proud to bring home a flag that had flown over the United States Capitol Building. It was a gift to Crellin School from Senator Ben Cardin. Wyatt Sanders appreciated the tour of the U.S. Capitol Building arranged by Senator Cardin's staff. The students rode an underground trolley from the Senate to the House of Representatives part of the capital. The experiences from this trip to Washington, D.C., will be treasured memories for these students from Crellin Elementary School.

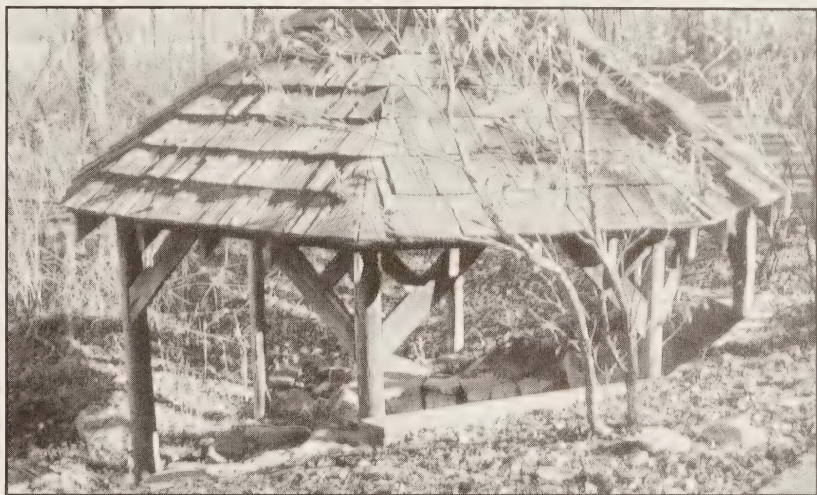
## *The Jones Raid Into Garrett County*

*written by  
the late  
District Court  
Judge  
Ralph M. Burnett  
for sale  
at the  
Garrett  
County  
Historical  
Society*



# *Yes, George Washington Could Have Stopped Here*

*by John A. Grant*



**Washington Spring as viewed from the Rosedale Road.**

We know from diaries and other sources that George Washington visited the land which became Garrett County many times. The first time was in 1748; the last time was in September 1784, when he traveled south on McCullough's Packhorse Path. According to tradition, he and his companions stopped at "Washington's Spring" on the western boundary of Oakland. However, there were those historians who questioned if the Path actually came through the area of Washington's Spring.

Back in 1875, when the Oakland Hotel was built, the landscape architects laid out a number of walking

paths in the Hotel grounds. One of them led westward where there was a large, natural spring. Some "old timers" had told them that George Washington stopped at the spring when he came through the area on the Packhorse Path; thereafter, it was called Washington's Spring.

Local historians had identified the Charles Friend cabin's location where George Washington had stopped for breakfast on the same date in September 1784, but they were slightly unsure of where the Packhorse Path could have gone; possibly directly northward from the cabin location.

During the time that the Oak-

land Hotel existed, famous people had visited the Washington Spring site. Miss Marion Leary wrote of one visit when General Crook's funeral took place in 1890. On the day of the funeral, William Cody (Buffalo Bill) and Maj. McKinley (later U. S. President) arrived several hours early for the funeral service, and spent some of their idle hours walking the path and visiting Washington's Spring.

After the Oakland Hotel was closed, the path became overgrown, and the woodwork around the spring rotted away. The prominence of the spring diminished and the controversy about the packhorse path was forgotten for all practical purposes.

#### GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL

Anticipation of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington in 1732, began several years before 1932. Washington items began to receive increased notice in many places, and Garrett County was not an exception. Soon, the Maryland

State Roads Commission placed two large historical markers near Oakland to indicate spots recorded in his diary. One was near the location of Charles Friend's cabin, and the other not too far from Archie's Spring in Pleasant Valley.

Then, one historian came up with information about the Packhorse Path and its proximity to Washington Spring. He found a 1774 deed reference to the path. The beginning point of a tract of land called Buck's Bones was noted as being only 110 paces from the mouth of the Little Youghiogheny River on the east side of McCullough's Path. The housing development of Glades West and Yough West is only several hundred yards north of Washington Spring and is on part of the Buck's Bone tract of land.

Thus, the packhorse path really did pass nearby the Washington Spring and George Washington really did go past the spring in September, 1784.

# LOTS. LOTS. LOTS !

## COTTAGE AND VILLA SITES.

"EAST END" of Oakland, on Mountain Lake Park Avenue; High and Beautiful Location, commanding a splendid view of the surrounding country; good drainage and fine shade, regularly laid off in one-fourth acre lots, interspersed with wide streets and avenues.

For a short time we will offer these excellent building sites at prices and upon terms in reach of all. They will never be worth any less, but will certainly increase in value. To those who have money to invest, we offer a splendid opportunity to make money, and to those who have not the ready money in hand to purchase a lot, we will sell on satisfactory terms. Purchase now and you will never regret it. Call at my office and see plan and ascertain prices.

FRED A. THAYER, Att'y,

Office in Felty Building, Opposite Post-office.



# Steam Locomotives

by John A. Grant

A 7600 series locomotive was pulling a "coal drag" up the Deer Park Grade toward Altamont. It was coming around the last curve before passing the signal tower at Altamont. To use a railroad expression, it was "down on its knees" belching smoke and cinders as it slowly moved toward the top of the grade. Its rhythmic "chug, chug, chug" spoke of the enormous power it expended as it pulled the string of cars up the hill. Soon, it would pass the signal tower and start down the Seventeen Mile Grade toward Piedmont.

The helper engine at the rear of the train would uncouple "on the fly" and return to Mtn. Lake Park where it would wait until the next freight train came along, couple up to the caboose, and repeat the whole process again.

Someone once wrote that the "steam locomotive was the common man's greatest achievement." If a person were to watch one of those 7600 series coming up the grade to Altamont, he would wholeheartedly agree with the statement.

Unfortunately, the 7600 series was near the final phase of steam locomotive development; steam locomotives were eventually replaced by the diesel locomotive which could



**Steam from a passenger train engine leaving the Oakland station.**

be used in pairs or larger numbers to get the same pulling power as the big 7600s.

Most of those big steam engines were used in the mountains, where their design could be put to the best use.

Some of the best known steam locomotives were the 5000 series, which pulled the passenger trains. When they came into a railroad station, they would always stop at almost the same spot, so the passenger cars were beside the station platform to allow easy unloading of the passengers. Meanwhile, the locomotive would sit there "panting" until it moved off again. (The actual panting sound was the noise of the locomotive's water pump putting more water into the boiler.)

After the train was loaded again and it was time to go, there would be a series of whistle signals by the engineer to acknowledge that all was ready, and the train was preparing

to leave.

Sometimes, at the Oakland railroad station, leaving was a dramatic sight. The locomotive would give one or two "chugs" and the train would start to move forward. Then, the big drive wheels on the locomotive would slip on the rails and there would be a whole series of quick "chugs," as the drive wheels went spinning around. It would send a big cloud of steam several hundred feet into the air. Then, the locomotive would move forward with a steady series of "chugs," and the train would slowly gain speed as it moved down the tracks to the next stop.

Of course, the steam whistle on the locomotive had a special effect on any nearby community that it passed through. In the middle of the night, residents would hear the whistle and know if the train was westbound or eastbound, if the weather was hot or cold, and whether it was going to rain or stay dry.

Here and there, along the railroad

line would be the home of one of the engine crew riding the locomotive. They had a special whistle blast to let the family know they were passing through; as time went by the community also learned the sound of the special blast and people knew who was passing through on that particular train.

Today, steam locomotives are a thing of the past except on "tourist" railroads where railroad fans can take a short ride on a train pulled by an old steam locomotive. They can hear the mournful whistle of a small locomotive as the train negotiates curves and passes through steep valleys in the mountains; it is the sound of a by-gone era when the steam locomotive was "king."

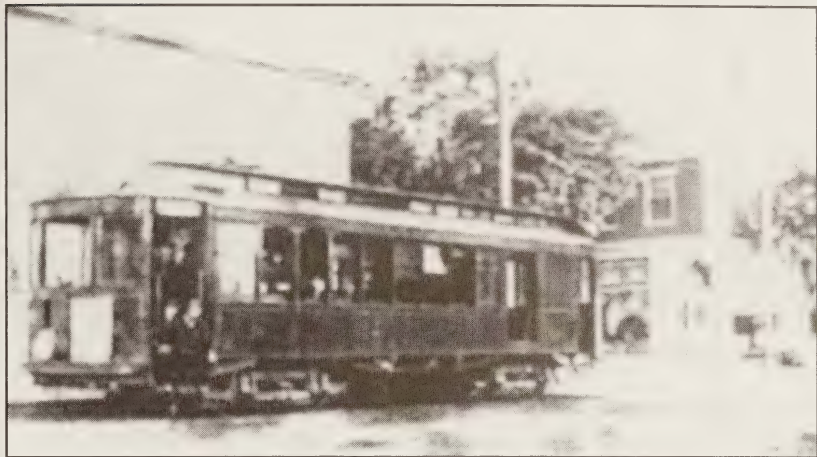
The 7600s, can still be found in railroad museums, and trace of the cinders beside the tracks as can be seen in the Altamont area. Sadly, the deep "chug" of these big steam engines is only a memory of a generation that is disappearing.



Last railroad curve on Deer Park Grade before reaching Altamont tower.

# Salisbury Street Cars

by John A. Grant



Street car at the corner of Grant and Ord streets in Salisbury, Pa, ca 1905.



Corner of Grant and Ord streets in Salisbury, Pa, 2007.

Garrett County had many narrow gage and standard gage lumber railroads, along with the regular railroads, but no street car lines; however, Allegany County, Md., and Somerset County, Pa., did have them.

While “surfing the Internet” on my computer, I came across an old

street scene in Salisbury, Pa. The picture showed a street car sitting on the main street of the town, and it brought back a long forgotten fact that there once was a streetcar line that connected Salisbury to Meyersdale, Pa.

Your writer has found that what





**Power house location at Boynton, Pa., 2007.**

affects the history of neighboring counties affects the history of Garrett County; so he decided to take a trip to Salisbury to learn more about the street car line that once existed. His first stop was at the Salisbury Post Office located on Main Street. A lady behind the counter in the post office couldn't identify the location where the street car was sitting, as shown on the web-site old postcard. The only thing she did remember about the street car line was that it left town at the north end of Grant Street.

"A person can still see where the old tracks went through the tall grass and weeds there," she said. "Peg Thomas can tell you more about it," she continued as she reached for a nearby telephone, and dialed a number. After a moment of conversation, she hung up and said, "Peg will come over in just a minute or two. She lives up around the corner."

Mrs. Thomas is a long time resident of Salisbury. She and her

husband, Jim, ran an antique shop at the north end of Grant Street; it was destroyed by the tornado that hit the town in 1998. They had hundreds of old postcards in the shop, and she was able to salvage some of them; the streetcar postcard was one of them.

In a few minutes, Peg Thomas came into the post office. She examined the photo of the street car for a minute or two and said, "The picture was taken right out in front of the post office, here at the corner of Grant Street and Ord Street. The P.S. Hay store was right across the street where the bank building sits now. I would guess the photo was taken about 1905, because the brick building you can see ahead of the streetcar in the photo was remodeled shortly after that time.

"Of course I wasn't even born then, but I can remember some of the stories about Salisbury from my husband's father," she laughed recalling some of the stories.

"As near as I can remember, the street car line ended right here at this corner. It might have gone all the way to Maryland in the original plans for building it, but here is where it ended."

"The power house for the electricity to run the streetcars was at Boynton, just up U.S. 219 going to Meyersdale. It was near the factory in Boynton. When the streetcar line came to Salisbury, the town also got electric street lights."

What did the letters M. and P. stand for in the name of the company written on the side of the streetcar shown in the old photograph?

"Umm. Perhaps it stood for Maryland and Pennsylvania, because the original plan may have been to run

the line south into Maryland."

"One story I do remember," continued Peg Thomas, "was the reason why it ran down the middle of the street. Apparently, nobody wanted it to run 'directly past my front steps!' As I recall the stories about them, the streetcars quit running some time in the late 1920s, perhaps 1927.

Only the old overgrown right-of-way north of town is all that remains visible of the M. and P. Street Car Company that came to town, but old photographs and stories about the line can still be found to keep the memory of Salisbury Street Cars alive.

For those interested in more information about the town of Salisbury click onto [www.salisbury.com](http://www.salisbury.com).

## Notice Address Change Membership Dues Increase

Dear Member:

**Please note:** Our new address is: 107 S 2nd Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

The Garrett County Historical Society sincerely appreciates your continued support of our organization. We hope you enjoy receiving the quarterly mailing of the *Glades Star* and find the various historical articles informative and interesting.

We have been able to keep the membership dues at \$15.00 annually since 1996; however, in recent years we have had several increases for printing and postage, with another increase on May 14.

At the last meeting the board voted to increase the annual dues to \$20.00. We value your support and hope you will continue your membership.

# "Steps To Knowledge"

by John A. Grant

"Now, children, I want you to remember. These steps are not like ordinary steps," said Miss Leary, "these are 'steps to knowledge' since they lead to a school." She said this to a group of children as she came up the steps to the Center Street School in Oakland. At the time, Miss Leary was Principal of the school and children were standing at the top of the steps waiting for the bell to ring for the beginning of the school day.

Your author was in the group of children who heard this expression about ordinary steps that led to the school. This was many, many years ago, but an expression that has not been forgotten.

Later, your author applied it to



Steps leading to Friendsville School.



Steps leading to Grantsville School.

the steps at the Fourth Street entrance of Oakland High School, where there were four sets of them leading across the front lawn to the front door of the school; they became Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior. Now, only the beginning or "Freshman"





**Steps which once led to Oakland High School.**

steps from Fourth Street are still there; the school building and other steps are gone; the place where they were located is covered with grass.

This summer there will probably be get-togethers or whole class reunions of former high schools that no longer exist since the combination of all the county high schools into two large schools, Northern and Southern.

Although the old Oakland High School is gone, all the other school buildings remain; the only exception is Kempton School where the building and steps are gone, and it is even difficult to find the place where the school once stood. However, before Oakland High School building was

torn down it was used for the offices of the Garrett County Board of Education. When the Board moved to a different site, the building remained vacant for a while and was then torn down.

The remaining high school buildings, except Kitzmiller, are used for some kind of business enterprise; for most of them the "steps to knowledge" are still there. (The Kitzmiller building contains the elementary school.)

Today, when former students look at their *alma matter*, they may not know the expression "steps to knowledge," but they do know they are wiser for having gone up and down those steps during the years they attended that school.

# Society Fund-Raising Dinner

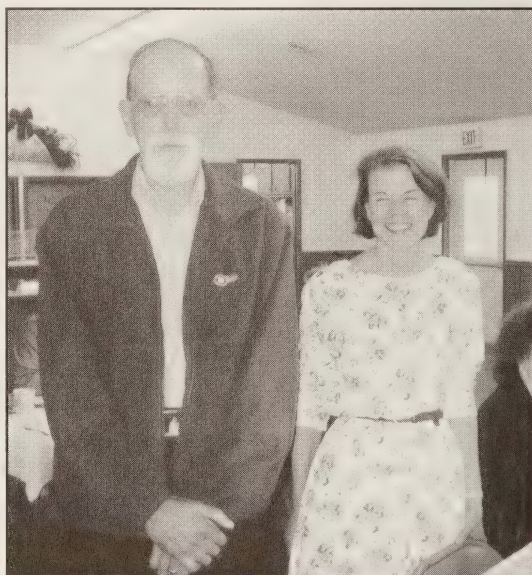
by John A. Grant

One Hundred and fifteen members and Friends of the Garrett County Historical Society gathered at the Pleasant Valley Community Center on May 3 for the Spring Fund-Raising Dinner. President Robert Boal opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and gave a few announcements including the introduction and recognition of certain guests at the dinner. Included in this recognition was Mrs. Mary Jones. She was first curator of the Society's museum in the building on Center Street in Oakland. She introduced a system of numbering and cataloging various items donated to the Society for the museum. It was an invaluable system and is still in use at the present museum.

Following these introductions, President Boal asked the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to give the invocation and grace for the meal. Once

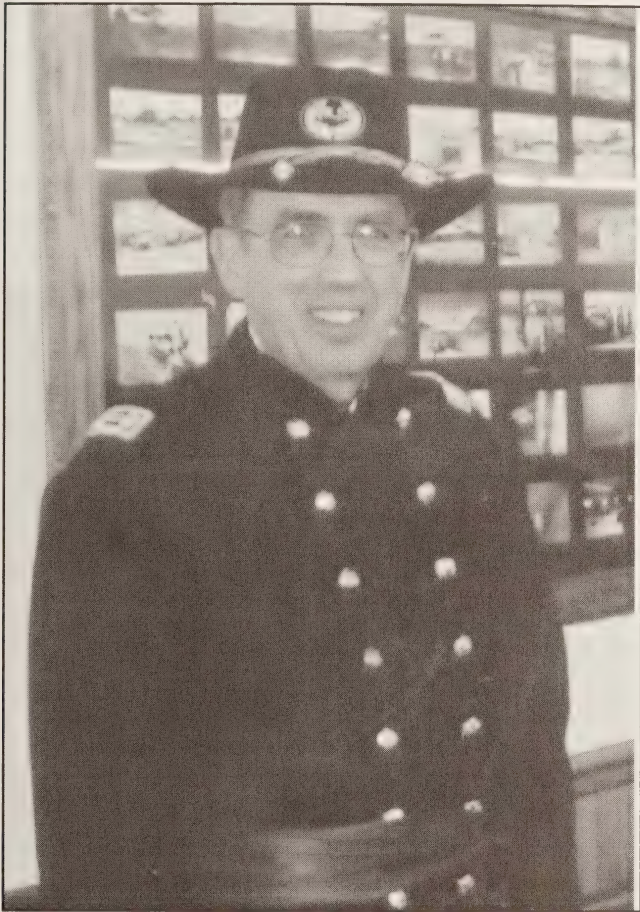


Helen and Gretchen checked in the guests.



"Bud" Peed traveled the longest distance to attend the dinner. He spent part of the winter on the Isle of Man.





**Dr. John Rathgeb dressed in the Civil War uniform of a Union Army Major.**

again the members and friends of the Society were treated to an excellent meal prepared by the ladies at the Community Center.

The guest speaker at the dinner was Dr. John Rathgeb, now a resident of Oakland. He spoke of medicine and treating of wounded during the Civil War. Dressed in the uniform of a Union Army Major, Dr. Rathgeb donned the type of apron worn by an Army surgeon of the period and talked with the assistant of a slide

projector.

Little by little, Dr. Rathgeb debunked the common belief that Civil War field hospitals were little more than butcher shops with disregard for the pain and suffering endured by wounded soldiers. He spoke about the advances in medical science of the era and the continuing advances since that time.

When the talk was concluded, President Boal once more took charge of the gathering with last minute

awards and announcements before the meeting was closed. First, he presented the flowers from the head table to Mrs. Mary Jones. Drawing for the door prize was won by Richard Hill, who received a book from the Society's museum.

Before ending the meeting, President Boal reminded the members present that the Annual Business Meeting of the Society would be held at the end of June.



# *The Circular Rainbow*

*by John A. Grant*

"A what? Never heard of such a thing!"

This is the usual response of a person who has never been lucky enough to see a circular rainbow.

No kidding! There is such a thing as a circular rainbow; although to call it a circular rainbow is a misuse of words; a "bow" is only a portion of a circle. However, all of them have the same color gradient and are composed of tiny drops of water which reflect the sunlight.

During this time of year we will have thunder storms. After the fury of that storm has passed, we will often see a beautiful rainbow trailing behind the storm clouds as they move toward the horizon. It is something mankind has observed and written about for thousands of years.

But what we see is a semicircle of beautiful colors, not a circular rainbow.

Perhaps, a word is in order about where a person has to be to see the particular phenomenon of nature called a "circular rainbow." A person has to be in an airplane flying about 40,000 feet and high over the top of a thunder storm to see it.

The one and only time your writer has seen one was during WWII in the Spring of 1945. He was a navigator on a B-29 bomber and on a training flight. The bomber was cruising along at 30,000 feet when

the pilot saw a line of thunder storms directly ahead. He made the decision to fly over top of them rather than go around, which would have meant a detour of several hundred miles.

The bomber climbed to 40,000 feet and continued to fly at that altitude. As navigator, I decided to go to the rear of the airplane for a few minutes. When I got there, I saw the three gunners of the crew gathered around one of the side windows of the airplane.

Naturally, I asked, "What the heck are you guys looking at?"

"A circular rainbow," was the reply. "Come, take a look at it."

So I went to the window and looked down at the cloud tops below the airplane. There, I saw a circular rainbow on the top of a cloud, with the shadow of the airplane in the middle of the circle. As I watched, the shadow of the airplane moved across one cloud top to another, but always surrounded by the circular rainbow.

That evening, when we got back on the ground again, I thought about the circular rainbow and how beautiful it was. As the years have passed I've often thought about what I saw that day and what an unusual sight it was.

I've concluded that it is one of the rare privileges granted to those individuals who venture into the realm of the sky above the clouds.

# *Garrett/Preston County Historical Society Bus Trip to National Museum of Civil War Medicine*

*May 15, 2007*



**Pry House at Antietam Battlefield, site of Civil War Surgery Museum. Dr. John Rathgeb in uniform in front.**

The Garrett County Historical Society hosted a bus trip (Garrett County People Movers) on Tuesday, May 15, to the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. Nineteen members took part with the tour guide being semi-retired Dr. John Rathgeb of Oakland's Oak & Apple Bed & Breakfast.

The first stop on the tour was the Pry House on the Antietam Battlefield. This house and its early barn were the location of much surgery resulting from injuries during the battle.

The house also served as General McClellan's headquarters during the battle, and President Lincoln visited his good friend, General Richardson, there shortly after the battle. Richardson died there weeks later of wounds received in the fighting.

The tour bus then took the group over South Mountain on Old Route 40 to the museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. After a box luncheon in the board room, the group was given an extensive tour of the facility by Dr. Rathgeb, a volunteer

at the museum, and Frank Parsons, a retired hospital administrator and volunteer guide. The group was much impressed with both the Pry House and the museum.

On the return trip the bus stopped briefly at the site of the Clarysville Civil War Hospital site near Frostburg. Dr. Rathgeb explained that the Clarysville Inn and its appendages provided approximately 800 beds for injured civil war soldiers.

Garrett and Preston County Historical Society members who took part in the tour: John Rathgeb, Brenda Rathgeb, Jerry Moyer, Lynn Grimm, Bob Boal, Leanna Boal, Cecil Bittinger, Clifford DeWitt, Lawrence Sherwood, Alice Eary, Paul Eary, Irmgard Koscielniak, Charles Royer, Joe Conners, Paul Shogren, Barbara Beerbower, Edna Britton, Carole Gregg, and Jim Feather.

## *Oakland Accessions*

*January 1, 2007, through May 16, 2007*

Nally's Empire Theatre ad, Deep Creek Lake Promotion

Council Motel/Restaurant List, WWI Gas Mask,

WWI Military canvas case, wood handle

with metal pin .....*gifts from Ivan and Mabel Rowe*

WWII War ration books, WWII mileage ration certificates, Ray

Shaffer War Registration Certificate, WWII picture of Jr.

Ferguson, WWII hat, 3 military pins, Brookside Tavern

picture, WWI Soldier Songs, old keys, old square

nails .....*gifts from George "Jr." Ferguson*

Edwin and Effie May Weimer pictures .....*gifts from Mary Adair*

John Friend, Sr., Genealogy .....*gift from Patty Friend Thompson*

Turner School pictures and

information .....*gifts from Sally Stanton Jarrett*

1946 German POW war drawings, Friendsville High School beanie,

Oakland High School National Thespian Society pin, razor

strop, 1924 Oakland High School class book, Blue and White

dinner plate, 1944 Garrett County tornado newspaper clippings,

1929 St. Mark's Lutheran Sunday School Birthday



Greeting, 1945 - 1995 OHS reunion booklet, 1944 "Girl-Shy"  
 OHS program, Henry Miller Genealogy, 1902 Garrett County  
 maps, Wisseman family history, 1945 St. Paul's "Bolts and Nuts"  
 program, Speicher State Senator Candidate letter and pin  
 .....*gifts from Bettie Louise Speicher Weyler estate*

B&O Railroad employee's free pass, B&O Railroad  
 excursion ticket.....*gifts from Bob Boal*

Interior picture of the Crellin Company Store.... *gift from Bob Shaffer*

2 WWII German helmets, Willard Elliot's WWII uniform,  
 boots, overcoat, two Army shirts, pouch, jacket hood,  
 tie, leather leggings, four hats. Red Cross cotton  
 pouches .....*gifts from Liz Lewis*

Original entries for the  
 Garrett County Seal.....*gifts from The Ruth Enlcw Library*

Ox Yoke .....*gift from Deloris Murphy*

Guitar, belonged to Aza Stanton..... *gift from Alan Dauglass*

Deer Park "crazy" quilt .....*loan from Bob and Dixie Moore*

Letter with George Crook's  
 Signature ..... *loan from Dr. Lawrence Sherwood*

B&O soup bowl, B&O salad plate... *gifts from Stan and Lynn Grimm*

Breaking up a Still, Mtn. Lake Park Auditorium  
 pictures.....*gifts from Cecil Bittinger*

Five Noel Obenshain pictures.....*gifts from Bill and Mabel Thompson*

Portrait of Liberty album.....*gift from Jane Hanst*

1934 Chevrolet prices .....*gift from Sybilla Sharps*

Lincoln, McKinley, Garfield picture .....*gift from Abe Kaufman*

Wood etching of the Slaubach House..... *gift from William F. Beachy*

B&L Store picture .....*gift from Robert Simmons*

John Friend, Jr., Genealogy .....*gift from Patrick T. Smith, PhD.*

WWI Leviathan picture and information .....*gift from Kevin Callis*

## *Memorials*

**Polly Hanst**

Bob and Leanna Boal  
Mrs. Jacquelyn Shirer  
Jerry and Dee Moyer

**Robert Jachowski**

Mrs. Virginia Jackowski  
Charles and Jean Dick

**Betty L. Speicher Weyler**

Thomas and June  
Williams

**Walker Van Hauser**

Wayne and Judy Wilt

**Judge Fred Thayer**

Helbig Insurance Agency  
Charles McIntire  
Jerry and Dee Moyer

Mrs. Jacquelyn Shirer

John and Jean Grant

Bob and Susanna Kurtz

**Martha L. Ashby****Rinehart**

Wayne and Jerry  
Glotfelty

**Howard Naylor**

Mrs. Ethel Rae Snyder

**T. A. "Abe" Holland**

Mrs. Margaret Germain

**Anonymous Donation**

Honoring the "Three  
Amigos": Tom Kahl,  
Fred Thayer and  
Frank Blue

## *Donations*

**Business and Professional  
Women****Junior Woman's Civic Club****Mary V. Jones**

for Furnace Fund

**Kathryn Gonder**

for Furnace Fund

**Ethel Rae Snyder****Terry Helbig**

for Mailbox

# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only one copy of each of the four issues. All memberships are on a yearly basis, from July 1 through June 30.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New      \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. 2nd St, Oakland, MD 21550-0028



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
*Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland,  
 MD 21550.



## For Sale

### Books

*Civil War Glades Star* .... \$3.50

*History of Crellin*..... \$5.00

*Deep Creek, Past and  
 Present* ..... \$10.00

*Deer Park, Then  
 and Now*..... \$10.00

*44 Years of the Life of a  
 Hunter*..... \$25.00

*Garrett County History* \$25.00

*Garrett County 125th Anniv.  
 Photo Album*..... \$20.00

*Indian Camps and  
 Other Stories* ..... \$5.00

*Once Upon a Mountain Top*  
 ..... \$15.00

*150 Years of Oakland* .. \$20.00

*Flowery Vale—  
 History of Accident*... \$15.00

### Garrett County

by Al Feldstein ..... \$20.00

*The Western Maryland Railway  
 in West Virginia*..... \$30.00

*Be'O Mug* ..... \$5.00

*Child's RR Cap*..... \$7.00

*Child's Metal Train*..... \$5.00

*Civil War Rifle Pen*..... \$4.00

*Set of 20 Civil War  
 picture postcards*..... \$4.00

*Ruler with pictures of all the  
 Presidents* ..... \$1.00

(Md. tax is .05%)

Consider a gift of a  
 membership to the Garrett  
 County Historical Society—  
 \$20.00, which includes 4  
 issues of *The Glades Star*.

# THE Glades Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

ISSN: 0431-915X

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— Published by —  
THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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VOL. 11, NO. 7

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

SEPTEMBER 2007

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Civil War General honored. See story page 239.

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

**OFFICERS 2004-2005**

President ..... Robert Boal  
1st Vice President ..... James Ashby  
2nd Vice President ..... Paul Shogren  
Treasurer ..... Kevin Callis  
Secretary ..... Alice Eary  
Asst. Sec'y. .... Edith Brock  
Corre. Sec'y. .... Helen Heath  
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Assistant Curator ..... Eleanor Callis  
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Matthew Stieringer,  
and Lawrence Sherwood.

### EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor ..... Jack Regentin  
Cir. Manager ..... Joseph Connors

### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

CORRESPONDENCE: *Glades Star*, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550.

## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:

[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)

[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)

- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)

- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)

- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)

- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *Civil War General Honored on June 30, 2007*

*By John A. Grant*



**Crook Crest, home of Tom and Kathy Johnson and daughter Ann.**

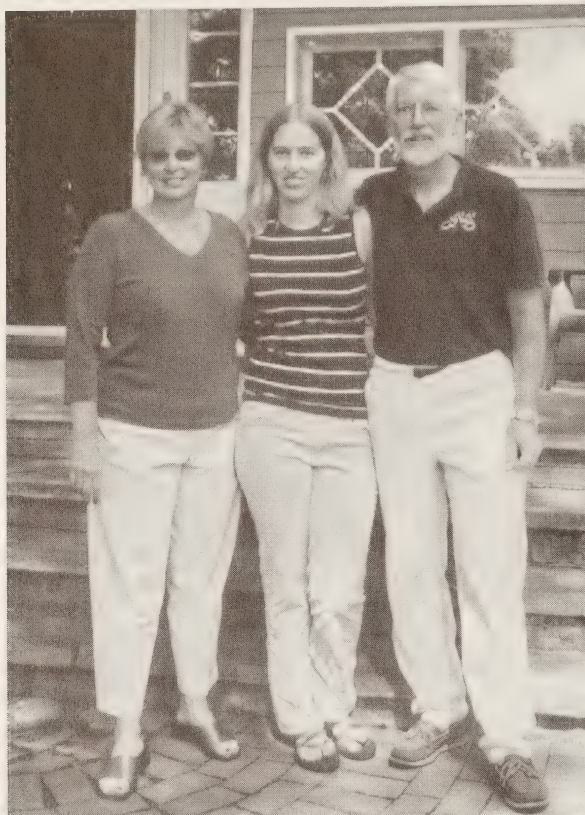
On June 30, Civil War General George Crook was honored by the erection of a small plaque on the lawn at Crook Crest, the house in Oakland which was planned to be a summer home for the general and his wife. Unfortunately, Gen. Crook died in 1890 before it was completed. After his death, Mrs. Crook lived there until she died in 1895.

General Crook died in Chicago on March 22, 1890, and his funeral took place in Oakland on March 30. It was attended by a number of Army personnel who had served with the general during the Civil War and

later in the Indian wars in the West. Among those in the group were men who had served as scouts for the Army in the western campaigns; one being William Cody, "Buffalo Bill."

Three weeks after the Oakland funeral, General Crook's remains were moved to Arlington National Cemetery where they were re-buried with full military honors. After her death in 1895, Mrs. Crook was also buried in Arlington.

Text of the plaque which was erected at Crook Crest reads as follows: "In memoriam. This home built for Major General George



**Tom and Kathy Johnson and daughter Ann.**

Crook. Honoring a great veteran. 1830 - 1890. Marker placed by General George Crook Chapter, DAR Prescott, Arizona, June 30, 2007." The plaque is now in place next to the front steps of the house; today Crook Crest is the home of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Johnson.

This plaque is a result of the efforts by Mrs. Lee Thomasson Nelson. Her great-grandfather, Lt. Nelson Thomasson, a Civil War soldier, fought in the West in the New Mexico Campaign. It was the beginning of the Western Campaigns by the U.S.

Army in which Gen. Crook participated following the Civil War.

For years, many older residents of Oakland could remember Gen. Crook during the Civil War, and there were a multitude of Oakland stories about the day of his funeral in 1890.

About 30 persons were present for the dedication of the plaque on Saturday morning, June 30. Included were a small group of DAR women who had accompanied Mrs. Nelson to Oakland from Arizona. (They

were members of the George Crook Chapter DAR and the Yaveopi Chapter DAR.) Prior to coming to Oakland they had stopped at Arlington National Cemetery to view the graves of both General Crook and Mrs. Crook; they are located on Crook's Walk in the cemetery. A number of women from the Youghiogheny Glades Chapter DAR were present, including Mrs. Martha Kahl, Registrar. So that the memory of "the soldiers in blue" would not be lost, Dr. John Rathgeb was there dressed in the uniform of a Civil War Major





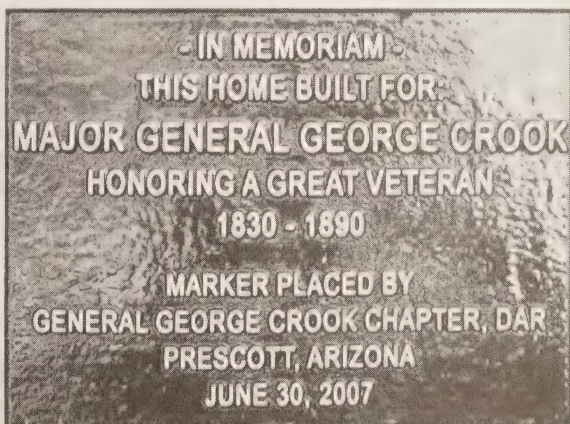
**Garrett County Historical Society representatives John Rathgeb, President Bob Boal, and John Grant with Mrs. Nelson and a DAR member.**

of the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Members of the Garrett County Historical Society were also present to complete the participation by local persons interested in Garrett County history.

Formal dedication of the plaque was done by Mrs. Lee Nelson, who followed it with a short description of the past year and problems associated with securing the plaque, plus a word of thanks to persons who assisted her in

the process. She then introduced the ladies who had accompanied her from the West.

Following these remarks Mrs. Nelson called on Robert Boal, Presi-



**Plaque honoring General Crook.**





Location of plaque beside front steps of Crook Crest.



Members of Garrett County Yough. Glades DAR Chapter with Mrs. Nelson and DAR members from the West.



**Mrs. Nelson and DAR members from the West at General Crook's grave in Arlington Cemetery.**

dent of the Garrett County Historical Society. After giving a few remarks Mr. Boal introduced some of the members who were present and also Dr. and Mrs. Johnson, who were the hosts for the group that day.

The ceremony was concluded with Dr. and Mrs. Johnson providing refreshments for all who were present.

One very interesting feature of the whole ceremony was the small talk among the guests, most of which was of anecdotes about Gen. Crook which had been passed along by their families from Civil War times and the funeral in 1890.

*Editor's note: Here is additional information on George Crook - the man and the commander - gathered*

*from a number of sources including an article in the September 1961 Glades Star written by Nadine Bussey, a former owner of Crook Crest.*

General Crook was considered by many of his contemporaries and historians alike to be the U.S. Army's most skilled Indian fighter. He defeated the two most hostile of the hostile tribes, the Sioux and the Apache, and their legendary chieftains, Crazy Horse and Geronimo. But he respected Native Americans as valiant foes who deserved to be treated fairly and humanely in defeat. Crook said, "When they were pushed beyond endurance and would go on the warpath, we had to fight when our sympathies were with the Indians." General William T. Sherman said Crook was the "...great-



est Indian-fighter and manager the army ever had." The great Lakota Sioux Chief, Red Cloud, said, "Crook never lied to us. His words gave the people hope."

George Crook was born into a farming family in Ohio in 1828. He graduated from West Point in 1852 and went immediately to the Pacific Northwest where he fought in successful campaigns against the Shoshone, Nez Perce and others. He returned east at the outbreak of the Civil War and was promoted to captain. Following the example of many of his contemporaries, he

sought and received an appointment as colonel from the governor of Ohio and command of the 36th Ohio Regiment of volunteers. He led his regiment in campaigns in western Virginia where he was wounded at Lewisburg. Promoted to brigadier general in May 1862 he led his brigade of Ohioans at the battles of Second Bull Run, South Mountain, and Antietam. Crook led a division of cavalry at Chickamauga and commanded a corps under General Philip Sheridan in his 1864 Shenandoah Valley campaign, fighting at Winchester,



Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. After his fourth citation for gallantry, Crook was promoted to major general of volunteers in October 1864.

In an incident of local interest, in February 1865 General Crook was captured in Cumberland, Maryland, by McNeill's Rangers, a band of irregular Confederate cavalry from West Virginia, and taken to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia, where he spent 28 days before being exchanged. In an odd twist of fate, the hotel in Cumberland where Crook stayed and from which he was taken was managed by



John Dailey, who would later own the Glades Hotel in Oakland and for whom the park downtown is named. Stranger still, one of McNeill's Rangers was Dailey's son, James, and one of Dailey's daughters, Mary, would later become Crook's wife. And this accounts for the General's association with Oakland. After the war, the Crooks returned on leave to Oakland many times while he served in the West, staying at the Glades Hotel and developing the plans that would become Crook Crest.

After his release from capture, the General led a cavalry division at the battle of Five Forks and pursued the Confederates to Appomattox. Crook then returned to the Pacific Northwest where he waged a two-year campaign against the Paiute. His success led President Grant to place him in charge of the Arizona Territory, where, beginning in 1871, he forced the Apache onto reservations.

The hallmarks of this campaign were his extensive use of Indian scouts, his relentless pursuit of Indians on their own territory, and his readiness to negotiate rather than force conflict.

At this stage in his life, Crook is described as being over 6 feet tall, somewhat spare, athletic and sinewy. He had blue-gray eyes, wore his fair hair close-cropped and his beard parted at the point of his chin. He dressed in an old canvas hunting outfit and a pith helmet. He rode a mule named Apache and carried a rifle across the pommel of his saddle. He commanded by example, often

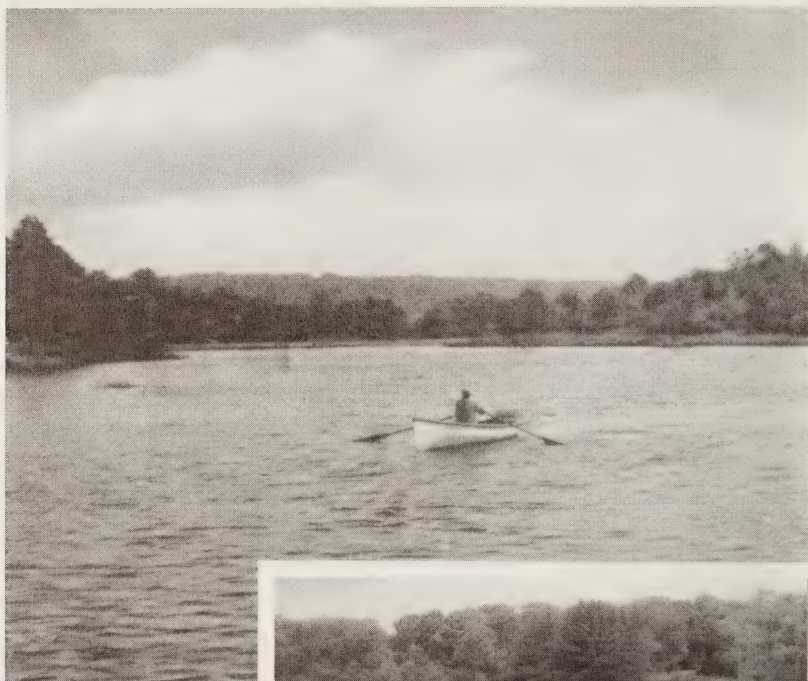
being the first to rise in the morning and the first in the saddle.

Having accomplished his mission in Arizona, Crook was transferred to the northern plains in 1875 where he was given the impossible task of removing a rapidly growing hoard of gold miners from the Black Hills. He was part of a coordinated attack designed to drive the defiant Lakota bands around Sitting Bull back onto their reservations. During this campaign his troops were forced to retreat from overwhelming numbers of Lakota and Cheyenne at Rosebud Creek, thus denying reinforcements to George Armstrong Custer, who was fighting for his life at the Little Big Horn.

In 1882 Crook was ordered back to Arizona Territory after the Apache had fled the reservations and resumed guerrilla warfare under Geronimo. During the next four years Crook repeatedly forced Geronimo's surrender only to see him retreat into the mountains or flee to Mexico. Crook was then ordered back to the Department of the Platte where he maintained peace with the Plains Indians. In 1888 President Cleveland promoted him to major general in the regular army and placed him in charge of the huge Department of the West headquartered in Chicago. During his final years, Crook continued his lifelong campaign in favor of his former enemies, speaking out against white encroachment, unfair treatment, broken treaties and failed federal policies.

*Havens for the Care-Free Days of Summer*  
***Camps Minnetoska***  
***and Whitethorn***

*by Jack Regentin*



Lake Koshare then.



Lake Koshare now, gradually being choked with water lilies.



For 65 years Camps Minnetoska for Girls and Whitethorn for Boys provided an enjoyable environment "In the Heart of the Alleghenies" for growing, learning, and fun for youngsters from Washington, Baltimore, and other eastern locations. According to camp brochures, "The days are never unbearably hot and the nights are always cool enough for comfortable sleeping." The camps were located at the northern end of Sanders Lane on the flank of Snaggy Mountain, bordering Herrington Manor State Park on the east and Alpine Lake in West Virginia on the

west.

Minnetoska, generally agreed by campers and staff alike to mean "Happy Laughter," and Whitethorn, named for a local tree, were located next to one another and shared some of the same facilities - dining hall, lake, athletic fields, craft facilities - but daily schedules were arranged so that boys and girls were generally separated. An exception was the evening program. Campers lived in cabins with four or five others selected for similarity of age (campers ranged in age from 7 years to 15), interests, and development and with a counselor.



(Above) The boys' cabins at Whitethorn then. (Right) Only one boys' cabin remains standing now.





The girls' cabins at Minnetoska then, none remain now.



The dining hall then.  
Only the dining hall's fireplace remains now.



Riding, a popular activity.



The barn was used for basketball, dancing, and other indoor activities.



The barn appears today to have changed little.



Each camper had a sturdy metal cot equipped with a quality spring and mattress. Screened and shuttered and raised on piers, the cabins offered well ventilated and comfortable living space. Wash houses nearby contained toilets and hot showers. During the 1980s the fee for two weeks - the minimum stay - was \$450.00. This sum was reduced for longer stays, up

to the full seven weeks the camps were in operation each summer. Children of government officials in Washington and foreign diplomats commonly attend the camps.

The 600 acres the camps occupied were originally owned by Dr. Henry McComas of Oakland. He bought it as a place where his son, who had tuberculosis, could rest and heal. Dr.



(Above) Advanced swimmers sit on the dam at the deep end of the lake. (Right) Today and dam is in need of repair.







The camp fire, a time for stories and song.



A few of the benches remain at the camp fire site, and the logs are in place and ready for lighting.

McComas stayed on as camp doctor after he sold the land. He had the dam built that formed Lake Koshare where the campers swam, boated, and held water carnivals. All campers were taught to swim by qualified Red Cross instructors, and advanced swimmers

were given live-saving instruction, some earning their Junior Live-Saving certificates.

In addition to water activities the camps offered a full range of arts and crafts opportunities and all the sports a camper could want: basket-



Campers age 10 and older could take tennis lessons. The court's asphalt remains but the net is gone.



The boys of Whitethorn.



ball, baseball, archery, riflery, tennis, badminton. There were also square and ballroom dancing, board games, amateur theatricals, and camp fires.

The daily program at the two camps was essentially the same with the boys' schedule set half an hour to an hour ahead of the girls' so as to maintain the separation except for the evening programs, which were co-ed. A typical daily program at Whitethorn was:

7:00 Reveille

7:25 Flag raising. All present. Pledge of Allegiance and Star Spangled Banner

7:35 Breakfast

8:30 Health inspection. Clean-up.

8:45 Assembly

9:00 Activity periods. Boys follow individual schedules which enable them to participate in all available activities several times each week. Small instruction groups enable counselors to give individual attention.

10:30 Swimming instruction.

11:45 Relaxation period. Preparation for dinner.

12:00 Dinner.

12:45 Rest hour.

1:45 Activity period.

2:45 Activity period.

3:30 Recreational swimming.

4:45 Relaxation period. Preparation for supper.

5:00 Supper.

7:00 Evening program: group games, parties, dancing, council fire, etc.

8:00 Roundup.

9:00 Taps.

1992 was the last year the camps operated. The area has been subdivided into an upscale community called Minnetoska Lake. Lake Koshare remains, however, and campers and staff have annual reunions in the area to remember their days at Minnetoska and Whitethorn.



The girls of Minnetoska.



# Memories of Sturgiss Pharmacy

by William Sturgiss Lind

*Ed. note: William Sturgiss Lind, of Cleveland, Ohio, is the only child of Mrs. Dorothea Sturgiss Lind, who in turn is the only child of William A. Sturgiss and Evelyn Hocking Sturgiss, originally of Meyersdale, Pa. William A. Sturgiss, son of Alfred G. Sturgiss, was the second and last proprietor of Sturgiss Pharmacy.*

My grandfather, Bill Sturgiss, for whom I am named, died in 1951 when I was five years old, and Sturgiss Pharmacy closed about a year thereafter. However, I remember both my grandfather and the pharmacy very well. During those five years, my mother and I spent a lot of time in Oakland because of my grandfather's failing health.

Young as I was, I gained the impression that the pharmacy was more than just a drugstore, and Bill Sturgiss more than a man who filled prescriptions. The store was one of Oakland's social centers, and Bill Sturgiss was one of the town's best liked citizens. I don't think he ever had a cross word for anyone, except on occasions toward my grandmother; her too frequent banging on the pipes which ran down from the kitchen through to his office in the back of the store, a signal she wanted something. It could elicit him to say an occasional, "Aw, go to hell!"

Bill Sturgiss's love for humanity manifested itself in countless ways. Poor people always had their prescriptions filled, whether or not they could pay. Sometimes weeks later, they would return with a chicken or a dozen eggs. Town "drunks," of whom there seemed to be no shortage, could always "sleep it off" in Bill's office. Also, if you were downtown and needed to get from Alder Street to the back alley, you just cut through the store.

Grandfather's love for humanity also extended to all kinds of animals as well. One day, many years before my time, a guest of my grandmother was coming down the front stairs (which only guests used; we came up the back way to our second-story back porch and the kitchen). When the lady got to the bottom of the front stairway, she let out a blood-curdling shriek. It seems she had put her white-gloved hand on the newel post and quickly realized she was touching a mouse. My grandfather went running to the rescue, picked up the mouse, and took it to his office. There, he found a small brass cage, into which he put the mouse, which he named Ignaz. Ignaz lived happily for several years in his brass cage, which was kept on the prescription counter, on which he was allowed to exercise (he was far too



**Children's table and chairs from Sturgiss Pharmacy in Society's museum.**

clever a mouse to run away from the Good Life). Of course, under today's Stalinist regime of regulations, my grandfather would be shut down by the State for having Ignaz in the store, or for letting my cat join me for ice cream at the small children's table (see photo). Somehow, back then, we seemed to survive such horrors unscathed.

Even as a child, and perhaps because I was a child, I reveled in our store's role as the town social center. My friends in Oakland were almost all adults; people such as "Kitty" Gonder, "Didge" White, Max Jarboe and especially Mrs. Nanine Offutt, who used to take me with her in her big

black car with wooden-spoke wheels when she paid her afternoon calls (which ladies in Oakland still did at that time), leaving her calling cards. The store witnessed its daily parade of "regulars," who seldom bought more than a Coke but spent hours talking, a fact which didn't bother my grandfather at all. I don't think he cared the least about money.

My grandmother, Evelyn Sturgiss ("Nana" to me; she announced firmly when I arrived that she would never be called "Grandma."), was as much a part of our small High Society as were Bill Sturgiss and the store. Our living-quarters upstairs were elegantly furnished, and she entertained grandly

(in fact she did everything "grandly," not by accident). A curiosity of those rooms, which had been converted from the G.A.R. Hall into an apartment when Bill and Evelyn married (A.G. Sturgiss and his wife, Emma Wagner of Morgantown, W. Va., lived in a large house next door which is still standing), was what they called a "double-shotgun" arrangement. The dining room was in the back, and the living room was in the front. To get from one to the other, you had to go through the bedrooms. My mother said that one of her earliest memories was of drunks traipsing through her bedroom whenever her parents gave a party, which was often.

When the drugstore was converted into Café LaDonna, I visited those rooms for the first time in about 50 years. Nothing had changed. It looked as if we moved out last week. My grandmother's sink was still in the kitchen. The bathroom fixtures were still the same, including the bathtub which had feet instead of sitting flat on the floor. The pocket doors that closed off the living room from the bedrooms were still intact. A restoration today would be easy, because I have a number of pieces of original furniture, which includes the dining-

room table and chairs, the tea wagon with a copper chafing-dish set and one of the beds (which I sleep in).

In fact it looks as if we had not entirely left. The proprietor the Café LaDonna told me that he repeatedly found the exhaust fan in the kitchen turned on in the morning when he was certain he had shut it off the night before. I told him that it was my grandmother; she was noted for turning it on because she smelled things she did not like. He also said that when he was alone there late at night, baking, he would hear someone quietly whistling in the front room of the café. I asked where the sound came from, and when he showed me, we looked at an old photograph of the drugstore's interior and saw it was where Bill Sturgiss and his father, A.G. Sturgiss had mixed up prescriptions. One or both of them had evidently whistled while they worked.

He said he was not afraid of the ghostly presence of Sturgisses of the past; they seemed quite friendly. I told him that they, like myself, were happy that the Sturgiss Pharmacy was once again the town social center it had always been. So long as it remains so, all Sturgisses, in this world or the next, will rest contentedly.

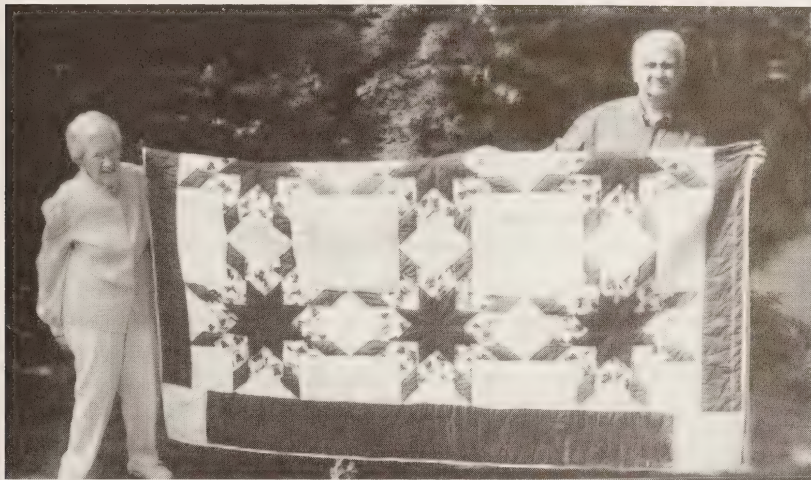
## Address Change

A reminder that the Historical Society's address has changed. All correspondence, including the enclosed Furnace Fund envelope and annual dues (\$20), should be sent to:

107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550.



# *Bicentennial Quilt— A Bit of History in Stitches*



**Billie Cross and Bob Boal with Bicentennial Quilt.**

At the Annual Meeting of the Society on June 21, one of the items on display at the meeting was the Bicentennial Quilt made by "Billie" Cross (Mrs. Ralph Cross) of Deep Creek Lake. Later, when she was asked about its unusual name and the meaning attached to the various squares of the pattern, Mrs. Cross gave the following reply:

"The basic pattern of this quilt is 'The Star of the Kentucky Blue Grass.' It contains six large colorful stars and many adjoining white squares and rectangles.

"The four large squares contain the American Symbols in quilting stitches. The first has the Liberty Bell, signifying the Declaration of Independence. The second contains

the War Drum symbolizing the Revolutionary War. The third large square has a five pointed Star, the symbol for the colonies. The fourth square has the American Eagle, the symbol of the strength of the Union. Smaller squares and rectangles with symbols are scattered through the quilt.

"The two rectangles at the top of the quilt contain the original and present day Flags in quilting stitches. (My husband said that I should have done them in colors; now, I wish I had. I told him that my stitches were not perfect and they would show my imperfection in stitching.) Other rectangles show the rope on the Flag Pole used to raise and lower the Flag.

"The corners at the top contain the Birth Day of our nation and the

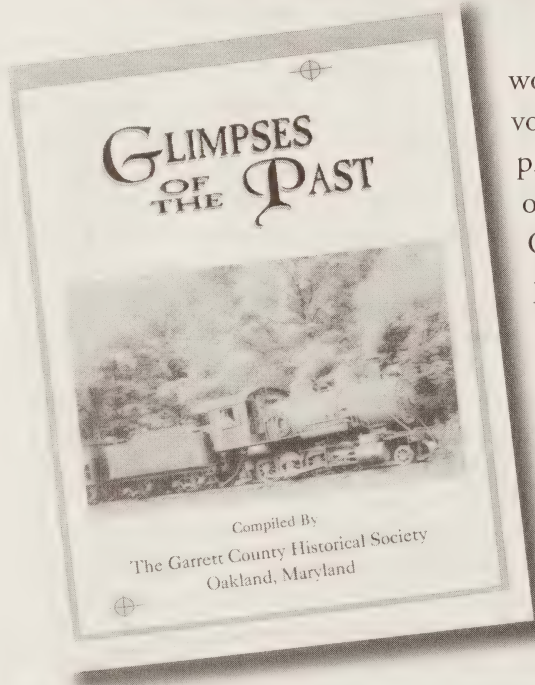
bottom corners have the date of the 200th Birthday of our Great Country. The red and blue borders have 50 stars, one for each state.

"This could be called a brief outline of the history of our country portrayed in our flag's colors red, white, and blue along with the symbols in thousands of stitches. It is an original. I never saw one like it and when I decided to make it I took it one step at a time.

"It took many, many hours of work to tell the 'Bicentennial' story." She smiled and said, "Maybe that's why I also call it a bit of history in stitches."

Readers will be interested to know that the Bicentennial Quilt will be on display during the Autumn Glory Festival in the Quilt Show at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Oakland, and several other places in Garrett County.

# Glimpses of the Past



This wonderful volume of pictures of Garrett County's past is now available at the museum. It may be purchased there for just \$10.

# *Crystal Spring Revisited*

*by John A. Grant*

Located at the upper end of the lake in Mtn. Lake Park, Crystal Spring was once a beautiful spot for a small picnic lunch or simply a cool resting place on a warm summer afternoon. The spring itself was artesian, and splashed out water from a four inch drain pipe into a short stream that ended at a large circular pool. In the crystal water of the pool were trout swimming around, and sometimes several goldfish. Over top of the spring was a long wooden canopy

that extended almost to the pool. Wooden benches were built between the wooden supports for the canopy.

Twenty feet away there was a gravel road that circled around that end of the lake, crossed a short bridge, and led to the Deer Park road.

Crystal Spring was indeed an idyllic spot in the years preceding WWII. Gradually, after the war, it was used less and less and began to deteriorate. Finally the canopy fell apart and the whole place was abandoned; slowly, it



Crystal Spring as it looked years ago.





**Crystal Spring today.**

was swallowed up by the surrounding forest and marsh grass.

Near the end of May this year, some people who had never been there asked your author to lead them to Crystal Spring. I had been there only once in the past 30 years, perhaps in the 1970s, and at that time there was a walking path which followed the old gravel road which circled around the upper end of the lake. So, I consented to lead them to the spring's location.

The walking path on the old gravel road was almost non-existent, being covered with trees and tall grass. However, we were able to find it here and there as we struggled through the

brush, and finally got to the spring's location.

Needless to say, unless a person had been there before, it would be almost impossible to locate the spring today. Only the stone walls surrounding the spring itself were there; the spring still gushed forth artesian water as it had been doing for a thousand years. The walls attested to the skill and care of the stone masons who had put up the stones in the late 1800s.

Yet, Crystal Spring is one of those spots which cannot be ignored. Someday, it will be revived and a new generation of people will be able to drink the cool water from the spring and relax in the natural beauty there.

# "Noise of Thunder" Legend

by John A. Grant

One day back in 1948, I was talking with Mr. Charles Browning of Deep Creek Lake. We were standing along U.S. 219 near the present site of Uno's Pizza restaurant and our conversation was about odd events of history in Garrett County. While we were talking he pointed to the field on top of the mountain above the Browning Stone Quarry.

"One thing I've never understood," he said, "although I believe it to be true. It is what my grandfather heard and what some of the others with him heard the day they cleared that field. It was the first or second day in July of 1863. While they were working up there they kept hearing the noise of thunder, but there wasn't

a cloud in the sky."

"A couple of days later," he continued, "they learned about the battle of Gettysburg, and decided what they heard was cannon fire from the battle."

Then he turned to me and asked, "Do you think it would be possible to hear cannon booms all the way from Gettysburg to Garrett County?"

My reply was that I didn't know, but I remembered Charlie Browning's story for years and years. Then one day, I had an occasion to read Bernice Kepple's book, "Treasured Memories of My Grandmother." In her manuscript, which was based in Westmoreland County, Pa., Bernice recalls a story which was passed on



Hill across from Uno's where noise was heard. Garrett 8 Cinemas are at the left margin of the photo.

by her great-great-grandmother which now gives fact to the title, "Noise of Thunder."

The particular section which caught my attention said the following:

"I don't remember any stories being told to me about that generation at all, except one that my Grandmother told me. She remembered that her grandmother told her about the mysterious noise that all those people heard in that area and thought it was rolling thunder. It came from the east and lasted three days. After the third day it began to rain, and rain, and rain."

"The word soon reached them that the noise which they heard was the sound of battle ... the battle of Gettysburg ... from over the mountains and more than a hundred miles away. The heavy rain was a result of the noise of battle and was recorded to have happened after many Civil War battles."

A letter from Mr. Victor Dozzi of Verona, Pa., gives a little more information about the sound from the battlefield itself. He quotes page 150 of a book "Picket's Charge" by George R. Stewart.

"The sound of the cannonade enveloped the town of Gettysburg, but was scarcely heard at Chambersburg, twenty-five miles away over South Mountain. By tricks of sound transmission, however, it was clearly audible at various points as much as 150 miles to the west and north."

Mr. Dozzi also adds some of his own recollection. "I have also heard that old timers would say the sound could be heard in Pittsburgh."

So, looking back on Mr. Charlie Browning's story in 1948, I guess that the sound which his grandfather and others heard the day they were clearing the field above the stone quarry really was the noise of the battle of Gettysburg.

## Grantsville Museum Fund Raiser

The Grantsville Branch of the museum will hold its annual fund raising turkey dinner at the Grantsville senior center on Saturday, October 20, at 6:30 p.m. Alice Eary, Historical Society Secretary and author of a comprehensive book on all Garrett County schools, will be the guest speaker. The cost of the dinner with program is \$20 and ticket reservations may be phoned in to the museum at 334-3226 or to Maxine Broadwater in Grantsville at 895-5124. Winner of the elementary school stained glass window design will be announced at the dinner.



# Turkey Growers Held Early "Autumn Glory" Festivals

by Jo Donaldson

With plans moving ahead for this year's Autumn Glory Festival, it is interesting to reflect on the early roots of this popular event. Long before the Autumn Glory Festival became an annual event, a group of turkey growers organized and promoted turkey dinners. In 2004 the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce helped celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first Garrett County Turkey Growers' Festival. "There are only a few of us left," said Loretta Opel, who helped prepare the turkey dinners and box lunches in 1954. She and Helen A. Glotfelty Booth worked with the Chamber to contact other surviving members of the Turkey Growers or their wives to take part in a celebration of that first annual dinner.

Turkey dinners remained an important part of those early celebrations and the Autumn Glory Festival, which began in 1968.\* The early dinner was considered a big success, with volunteers serving turkey dinners to as many as 475 people. Many also

sampled the smoked turkey, which was a new addition at that time. Wives of the Turkey Growers prepared the meal and 4-H girls served it. People came to the dinners from New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington, D.C., Ohio, Pennsylvania and all sections of Maryland. Committee members for the Turkey Growers dinners

included Chairman Gerald Glotfelty, Marvin Beitzel, Harland Bowman, Elaine Glotfelty, Robert O. Glotfelty, Roy Glotfelty, and John Reckner. John Holman of Friendsville won the dressed turkey door prize at the first annual dinner. The committee hired Dusty Shaeffer and three others for \$50 to furnish entertainment for the evening. They also decided to give away a door prize of a 10-15 pound dressed turkey and a dressed turkey hen to the person, other than a member of the Turkey Growers, who sold the most tickets for the dinner.

Branded Gar (for Garrett County) and Land (for Maryland), the festival trademark was to feature a shield, torn





open, revealing a turkey. Rev. Henry J. VonSchlichten, former resident of Accident, and Carlton Knox of Bittinger each received \$50 for submitting the winning brand name and trademark. The ladies' menu committee prepared a souvenir menu for the first annual festival. Besides featuring "GarLand" roast turkey, it included gravy, dressing, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, cranberry sauce and other items still offered with current turkey dinners during Autumn Glory. The turkey growers also provided box lunches for the Autumn Glory Special. Visitors coming to Oakland on the B&O Railroad were given the lunches as they loaded buses to go to Swallow Falls. Opel remembers making the lunches in the Southern States building owned by Lowell Loomis, a Turkey Growers member. Some turkey dinners were served at the Deep Creek Lodge in McHenry. "Then we sold tickets for Northern High Autumn Dinners," she said.

The turkey dinners were an on-again-off-again event until the Lions Club became involved in the 1960s said local historian John Grant. However, the idea of a large festival to attract visitors to the area remained popular and led to the start of the Autumn Glory Festival, which now attracts more than 60,000 in mid-October. "It was a lot to work," said Deb Clatterbuck, director of tourism and marketing for the Chamber, who remembers helping with Southern High School's turkey dinners in the 1990s.

Some surviving members of the Turkey Growers, including Webster Brenneman, Blaine Glotfelty, Marvin Beitzel, Carlton Knox's wife, Doris, John Reckner's wife, Ida, Russell Teets's wife, Dorothy, and Walter Bowman's son, Sam, participated in the 2004 parade and Autumn Glory Kick-Off dinner, and some turkey growers were Autumn Glory Grand Marshals in recognition of the 50th

anniversary of the first Garrett County Turkey Growers' Festival.

More information about this year's festival can be found at [www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com). Brochures are available through the Visitors Center and at other area locations.

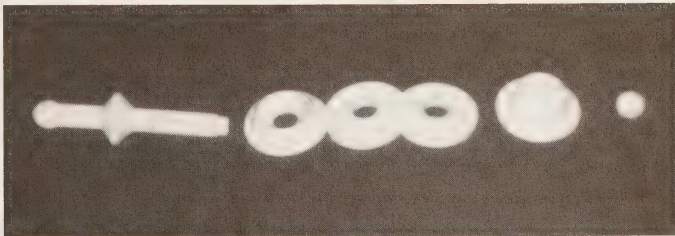
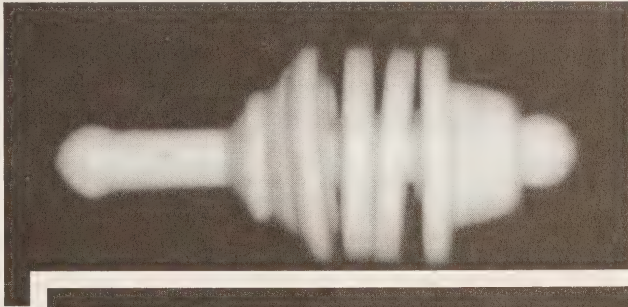
\*The starting date for Autumn Glory always goes back to 1968 - the first year of our parade. Yet, there are headlines such as this one from *The*

*Republican* dated October 5, 1961, "Mountain Top Awaiting Visitors for Autumn," and this one from October 15, 1959, "804 Attend Autumn Glory Celebration." Headlines about Autumn Glory are found in *The Republican* each year going back to 1951, when a front page spread is titled "Autumn Glory Time Officially Proclaimed."

## What Is It?

Does anyone know what this is. It's made of a ceramic material, is 5¼ inches long, and has an arrow with the word "top" at the long end. The knob at the other end unscrews so the object can be taken apart. It was made by the Kent Manufacturing Co. in Chicago.

Readers are asked to send or phone their guesses in to the museum. Readers are also invited to bring photos of artifacts they can't identify to the museum for appearance in future issues of the *Glades Star*.





# *"Thank You, County Commissioners"*

*by John A. Grant*



**The repaired monument No. 29.**

On behalf of the Garrett County Historical Society, this writer wishes to express a word of "thanks" to the Garrett County Commissioners. The "thanks" is in connection with their prompt action concerning repairs to a monument on the Maryland/West Virginia Boundary line. Marker No. 29 had been knocked off its base and was lying on the ground.

Back during the week of June 19, your writer received a telephone call from Mrs. Lohr on Teets Road in the Blooming Rose area. She explained that a boundary line monument had been knocked over and was lying in her front yard. She couldn't remember how long it had been there, but thought something should be done about it.

Inspection of the site a week



**Authorization for the monument by the Boundry Line Commissioners on the base stone of the monument.**

later revealed that it was the No. 29 marker of the 1910 boundary line survey. This was when that line had been surveyed for the final time and declared by the U.S. Supreme Court to be the true boundary between the two states.

This particular monument consisted of two parts: a base stone set in concrete with a four sided tapered stone containing a number mounted on top; this particular top had No. 29 cut on two faces and the letters MD or WVA on sides three and four. The top had been knocked off and was lying on the ground, but the base stone was still solidly set in concrete.

Returning home, your writer sent a letter to the County Commissioners explaining what had happened to marker No. 29 and where it was located. Not knowing to what jurisdiction the monument belonged, the writer couldn't make any suggestions

about putting the top stone back on its base.

Within a week after sending the letter, a reply came back from the County Comissioners' office that the stone had been repaired. They simply sent out a County road crew to Teets Road and the men completed the work inside of an hour.

Your writer went out to Teets Road several days later and took the photographs accompanying this article. The crew also cut the grass short around the base stone, and made visible once more the names of the Boundary Line Survey Commissioners which authenticates the location of Marker No. 29.

Thus, a word of "thank you" goes out to the Garrett County Commissioners for such prompt action in a matter that is connected to the County's history.

# Annual Society Meeting

by John A. Grant

Once again the Garrett County Historical Society had its annual dinner and business meeting at the Bittinger Fire Hall. It took place on Thursday evening, June 21, and 90 members of the Society attended the annual meeting.

The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. by Pres. Robert Boal, who made a few preliminary announcements and recognized some of the special guests present; he then asked the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to give the Invocation. Following the Invocation, the Ladies of the Fire Department Auxiliary served a delicious meal.

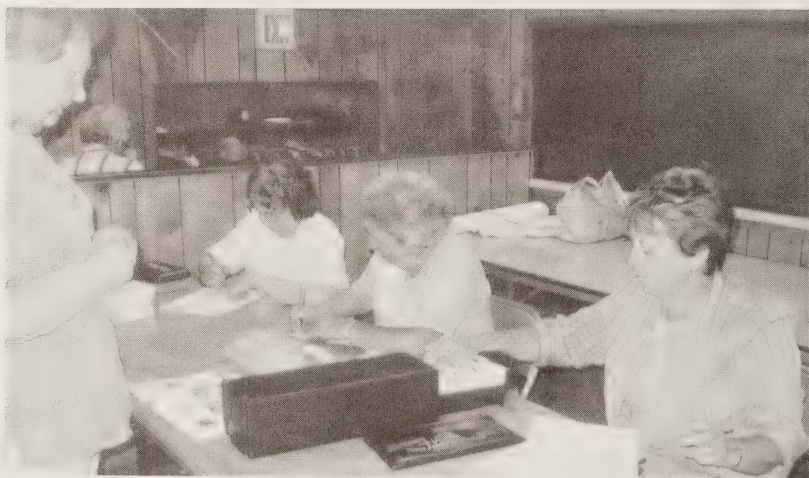
After the meal was completed, Pres. Boal began the business part of the meeting. A motion was made and passed to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 2006 meeting

and the Treasurer's Report. (A printed copy of this report had previously been placed on each table.)

One outstanding item to be brought before the Society in connection with the Treasury was the forthcoming expense in connection with a new furnace for the Museum building in Oakland. The present furnace is old, and in the past few years has been increasingly expensive to maintain; the time has come to replace it.

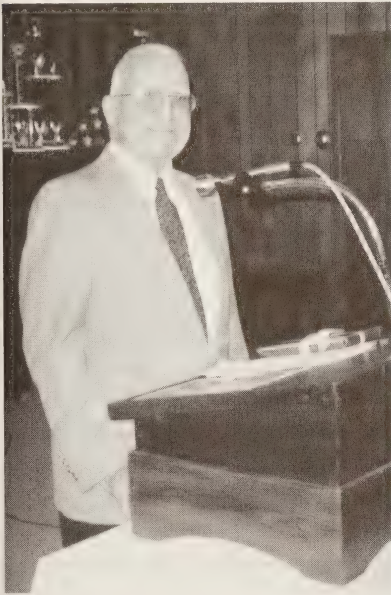
Pres. Boal then called for Vice Pres. Jim Ashby to conduct the meeting and present the slate of names to be elected to various positions in the society. The slate contained the names of those already serving and they were all re-elected unanimously.

After the election, Pres. Boal



Helen Heath, Eleanor Stemple, and Martha DeBerry check in folks at the door.





Dr. Sherwood gave the invocation.

resumed running the meeting. He called attention to the Bicentennial Quilt displayed near the speaker's table; it was created by Elsie "Billie" Cross. He also called attention to a 1906 picture of Oakland, displayed nearby, which was brought to the meeting by Fred and Mary Warther.

Instead of a speaker on a historic topic, the program for the evening consisted of musical selections by the Sugarfoot Stompers, a traditional Jazz Quintet. In the drawing for the door prize, Mrs. Jean Beard's name was the winner. The second award for the evening was won by Mr. Cecil Bittinger.

The meeting was adjourned by Pres. Robt. Boal at 8:25 p.m.



Entertainment was provided by Sugarfoot Stompers, a traditional Jazz Quartet.

# *Your Help Is Needed!*

The heating and cooling of the museum building has become very costly and we know energy costs are going to rise even more. These increased energy costs could make our current heating and air conditioning systems cost prohibitive. The systems at the museum are outdated, inefficient, and in constant need of repair.

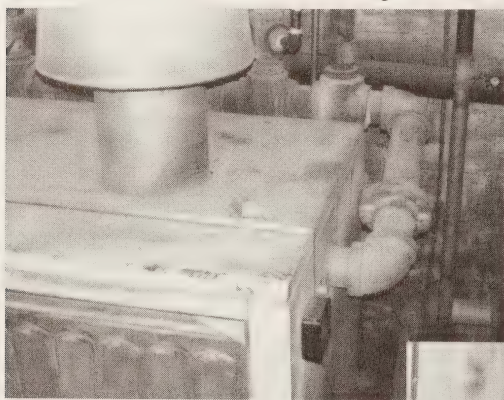
We have checked with local contractors to see what we need to do and what the cost would be to replace the outdated furnace and air conditioning

with energy efficient units.

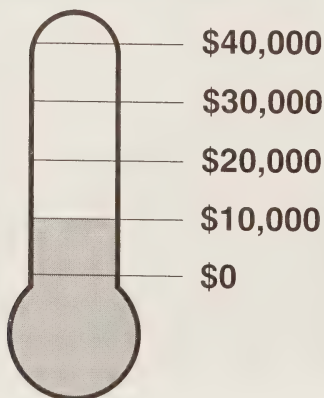
We find that we need to raise at least \$30,000 to replace the existing furnace and air conditioning system with modern, efficient, and safe equipment units.

Mechanicals are not the type of things we and the public can see and appreciate such as a gazebo, hotel facade, or cupola. However, we all pay utility bills and can appreciate what a new energy efficient and reliable furnace and air conditioning system can mean to our museum.

We are over 800 strong in membership and need your help with donations. We have no choice in delaying this project and work will begin this month. We ask you to generously support us in this urgent matter with your tax-deductible donation.



Present furnace.



Could this be our only source of heat?

# Garrett County Historical Society Treasurer's Annual Report

*May 31, 2006, to May 31, 2007*

Balance: Checking Account May 31, 2006.....	\$ 1,311.86
Receipts.....	\$ 81,042.27
Subtotal.....	\$ 82,354.13

Disbursements.....	\$ 75,549.39
Net Balance As Of: May 31, 2007.....	\$ 6,804.74

Balance: Savings Account May 31, 2006.....	\$ 10,833.11
Receipts (Plus Interest).....	\$ 5,573.74
Subtotal.....	\$ 16,406.85

Disbursements.....	\$ 15,000.00
Net Balance As Of: January 2007.....	\$ 1,406.85

Above balance transferred to checking account from savings.  
(Savings account closed January 2007)

Opened New Certificate Of Deposit Acct - Jan 2007.....	\$ 15,000.00
Other Funds On Deposit:	
Certificate Of Deposit Acct.....	\$ 1,000.00

Total Funds On Deposit As Of: May 31, 2007.....	\$ 24,211.59
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Respectfully Submitted, Kevin E. Callis, Treasurer

## Oakland Accessions

*May 17, 2007 through August 21, 2007*

Dennett Road picture, 219 South railroad picture, Wood Products picture, WMSG picture, B&O Railroad picture, Route 135 house picture, Liberty Street picture. Highland Park Dairy picture, Garrett National Bank "Drive-in" picture, Flying Scot picture, Sterling Processing Plant picture, Two Sterling Processing chicken pictures .....*gifts from Don and Betty Sell*

Sharps Motor Company yardstick .....*gift from Bob and Leanna Boal*

1914 Maryland Suffrage News .....*gift from Kevin Callis*

Purse (belonged to Great Aunt Clara), Watch, belonged to Este Fike Bowman..... *gifts from W.V. Beltran*

B&O Stock Certificate with John Garrett's signature, four Bloomington buttons, Bloomington picture, Bloomington at Mouth of Savage copy, and booklet, six Bloomington brochures, Bloomington Town history..... *gifts from Bob Boal*

(Continued on Page 272)



- Deep Creek Yacht Club booklet. History of the Deep Creek Yacht Club.....  
.....*gifts from Shirley Munford*
- Garrett County Bank Checks—1899 .....*gifts from Cindy Seebeck*
- Garrett County postcards, miscellaneous postcards and three  
calling cards ..... *gifts from Jane Humberson*
- WWII 30mm shell brought back from  
Europe by Willard Elliot .....*gift from Ann Elliot*
- Tablecloth, belonged to Mrs. George  
Humberson.....*gift from the Humberson family*
- Grinding stone from an old barn.....*gift from Debbie Klotz*
- Mtn. Lake Park "Creedmore" information, 1941 Chautauqua booklet.  
Camp Minnetoska/Whitethorn booklet. Ward's Restaurant business  
card, Oakland Civic Club booklet, Browning/Wolf marriage  
certificate and picture, ivory file, Wolfe, Browning genealogy, 1938  
Oakland High School information, an album Indian dart found at  
Sang Run, "Rouse Ye Democrats," poem by Meshach Browning,  
the H-P Store Centennial pictures, Old Defender's Day program -  
1980 .....*gifts from Lucille Wolf Shorb*
- Three WWII decks of playing cards .....*gifts from the Kenneth Ridder family*
- Patriot pinwheel quilt.....*gift from Charles Royer*
- Deep Creek Lake postcard.....*gift from Naomi Wolf*
- WWII foreign flight suit, WWII Army shirt and pants, three WWII mili-  
tary hats, Oakland Volunteer Fire Department hat.....*gifts from Wilma  
Sharps*
- Coal Miner's hat. Songs of the Soldiers and Sailors, Uncle Sam's Famous  
Coal car tag from Ed Tasker (Bethlehem Mine).... *gifts from George "Jr."  
Ferguson*
- Framed picture, Birdseye View of Oakland, 1907.....*gift from Fred and Mary  
Warther*
- Two B&O coat buttons.....*loan from Duncan Smith*
- "Flapper Girl" picture.....*gift from Bob Ault*
- Derby Hat and picture of Bob Hoffman wearing the hat, Birdseye picture  
of Oakland, First Grade school picture, "Blackburn" 1911-1912, War  
Ration book, Mildred Hoffman 4-H picture, "Little Songs" book,  
Sandy Douglass article, Pette Cocoa can, shoe hook, picture of Bob  
Hoffman and Wellington Yutzy.....*gifts from Sally Hoffman Durrant*
- Ceremonial Spearhead probably from Friendsville...*gift from Karen Wooddell*
- Newspaper article on Mary Elizabeth Garrett, only daughter of John .....*gift  
from Alice Eary*
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church brochures..*gifts from Robert Rodeheaver*

- Cooking pot, belonged to Ruth Cress Cuppett Forman, grandmother of Edna Lewis, large cast iron cooking pot that belonged to Edna Lewis ...  
.....*gifts from Elaine Lewis*
- WWI canteen holder, 1937 St. Peter's Catholic Church booklet and Centennial Celebration, two Deep Creek Lake booklets, Gilbert Brown Boys' Band program, Loch Lynn Heights history. Hill Top Views, seven J.M. Davis Hardware bulletins, The Peoples Home Library, chestnut information..... *gifts from Phyllis Helbig*
- Chamber pot and newspaper clippings from the Howard House that stood on Alder Street..... *gifts from Elsie "Billie" Cross*
- Ad "On the Border with Crook," "General George Crook," his autobiography, "A Clash of Cultures," "The Day the Cowboys Quit".....  
.....*gifts from the Ralph Burnett Estate*
- Picture of "The Dreamer" yacht owned by C.M. Railey .....*gift from Charles Railey*
- "Scots n' Water" magazine, picture painted by Sandy Douglass .....*gifts from Alan Douglass*
- 1908 Daily News paper..... *gift from Ariel Robinson*
- First National Bank check .....*gift from Leo McBee*
- Wedding dress, night gown and undergarments that belonged to Polly Hanst, 1949 Oakland Souvenir booklet, 1924 Oakland High School year book, Mtn. Lake Park postcard, Boys' Band 2nd Street parade postcard, two Deep Creek Lake maps, Dr. Harned photograph, 1976 Harvest Festival poster, from the Polly Hanst Estate.....  
.....*gifts from Jane Hanst Brown*
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church postcard, humorous postcards, calling card, Garrett County brochures, 1977 Garrett County Centennial Calendar, Oakland pictures.....*gifts from Cliff DeWitt*
- B&O dinner plate "First Stone," various B&O dinnerware, B&O gold rim bowl.....*gifts from Jacqueline Shirer*
- 1976 Garrett County phone book.....*gift from Robert W. Breeding*
- Deer Park Hotel fork.....*gift from Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Clarke*
- 1907 Walman by the Tracks picture.....*gift from Dale Fike*
- Admiral Dewey pitcher ..... *anonymous gift*
- Harry Sincell Home picture .....*gift from Bob and Leanna Boal*
- Whitewater information, WWI Distinguished Service Cross information ....  
.....*gifts from Randall and Martha Kahl*
- "Songs of Oakland Girl Scouts" ..... *gift from Carolyn and John Johnson*

# Memorials

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Cindy Seebeck

**Judge Fred Thayer**

Reflective Readers Book  
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# THE Glades Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

ISSN: 0431-915X

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THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 11, NO. 8

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2007



Guests taking their leisure on the Oakland Hotel's grand porch. See story on page 279.



## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
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- Society Museum in Oakland:  
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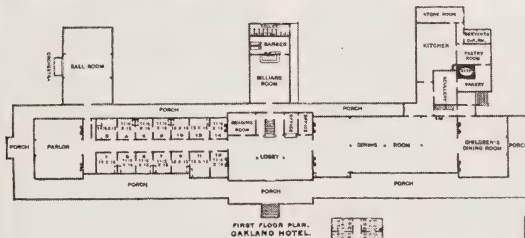
# Oakland Hotel Revisited

The Historical Society has recently acquired three photos of the storied Oakland Hotel taken in 1901. They are displayed here in the Glades Star for the first time and give some feeling for the grandeur of the hotel in its glory days. Displayed here also are the plans of the hotel's first and second floors and a map showing the

location of the hotel in relation to today's landscape. Betty West's article elsewhere in this issue includes some information on the hotel, which the B&O Railroad built in 1875 as a replica of its very successful Deer Park Hotel. The Oakland operated until 1907 and was razed four years later.

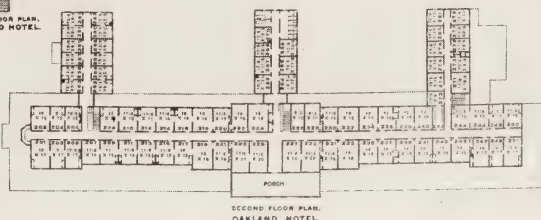


The Oakland Hotel in its glory days, nestled at the foot of Totten Hill.



First floor plan.

Second floor plan.



SLEEPING FLOORS ARE DUPLICATES. ROOMS NO 8 244 246 344 AND 346 ARE ALSO BATHS AND TOILETS.



The dining room.



Guests on the hotel grounds enjoying a concert by Vincents Band from Grafton, West Virginia.





Map of Oakland as it looks today with the approximate location of Oakland Hotel. In 1910, Oak Street (Md. Route 39) did not cross the river. A bridge, much like the new one over the Little Youghiogheny River at the Mountain Fresh Pavilion, crossed the river at the B&O Train Station.

# Hotels and Rooming Houses from the Horse and Buggy Days

by Elizabeth J. West, Historical Society Secretary, 1958—1961

*This piece turned up recently in the museum's archives. It was written about 50 years ago and relates a lot of interesting information about Oakland's hotels and rooming houses from a bygone era. Your editor thought it would make a good companion piece to related articles in the June 2005 and June 2006 editions of The Glades Star. The former, especially, has pictures of many of the hotels.*

## OAKLAND HOTELS, 1806 - 1948

In 1806, William Armstrong at Yough Glades kept an open house on the long road from Westemport to Clarksburg. When Oakland was established in 1849, a large house was built by John Thayer of Grafton, Virginia, on the corner of Third and Oak Streets, to be used as a hotel while the railroad was under construction. This house was bought in 1866 by Ralph Thayer when he brought his family from Selbysport. It was owned by the Thayer family. They entertained selected guests until about 1920, when the house was sold to Thomas Bishoff and became an apartment house.

The quaint house on Oak Street near First Street which was owned and occupied by Scott Shirer's family was at one time a hotel. Dr. J. Lee McComas lived in this hotel when

he came to Oakland in 1858. The Davis House on the corner of Second and Oak Streets was also one of the early hotels.

The Central Hotel was located on the corner of Second and Alder Streets. S.L. Boyer was the owner and manager, and the hotel also bore his name. The hotel was torn down when the First National Bank was built in 1903.

In the large double family home on Second Street, now owned and occupied by Harland Jones and his sister, Miss Grace Jones the first Commercial Hotel was operated by Mrs. S.M. Miller in the 1880s. The house had been built for a hotel, and was most comfortable and well located. As Oakland grew, a larger hotel was needed and the New Commercial Hotel was built, nearer the business section. This was owned and managed by Mrs. Miller and her daughters. Moving was accomplished from one hotel to the other without interruption. It was business as usual that day, a supper was served for a sleighing party from Aurora and two couples were married in the hotel parlor. The new hotel was modern with electric lights, and running water from a well in the yard. Good help was abundant. There were

two maids, two laundresses, and a man to meet the trains. Three colored [sic] men held that place at different times: James Truly, John Banks and William Jones.

A letter written at the Commercial Hotel, December 25, 1911, gives an idea of the hospitality of the home. "I was awakened by a rising bell, when the breakfast bell sounded. I had a fine breakfast of chicken and waffles. I walked all around town after breakfast. Dinner was served after twelve o'clock. It was turkey with lots of stuffing, cranberries, celery, olives, six vegetables, fried apples and delicious fruit salad, plum pudding with sauce, frozen custard whose flavoring was not bought in a grocery store, two kinds of cake, coffee, nuts and candy. The table was trimmed with scarlet bells and ropes of tinsel and a great bunch of roses; at my place was a long stemmed pink rose. At three o'clock I started out and climbed a high mountain just behind the Hotel. From this mountain I had an extensive view—it is too steep to go often. When I finished dinner, I felt as if it would last me a week, but after being out so long in this fine air, I was able to enjoy a light supper of cream toast, cold Turkey, hot beefsteak, fried potatoes, apple sauce, cherry gelatin and hickory nut cake. So on the whole I have had a most delightful Christmas."

After the death of Mrs. Miller in 1924, the New Commercial Hotel was sold to her grandson, William O. Davis, and James A. Towler. The lobby and dining room were changed

and a new name, "William James Hotel," was selected. Later the property was taken over entirely by Mr. Towler. The lobby was enlarged, and a tier of well appointed bed rooms was added on the two upper floors. Mr. Towler's guests were so graciously entertained that the business prospered. Guests returned and brought their friends. It was with regret that Oakland parted with Mr. Towler and his family when the Hotel was sold in 1945 to Mr. Sheehe, who maintained the open house and generous hospitality which surrounded the home since 1910. Mr. Sheehe also owned and managed the Manhattan Hotel, which he bought from Mrs. Charles Bosley in 1945. The Manhattan Hotel was under the management of Charles Bosley, the son of Mr. George Bosley, who owned the Bosley House on Oak Street. Mr. Charles Bosley, who was assisted by his wife, was a generous host, and the hotel was very popular.

The Pickwick Inn was opened in 1945 by Mrs. William Grimes and Mrs. Lillian Davis, who owned and managed the Mt. Lake Park Hotel during the summers. Pickwick Inn was located on Seventh and Alder Streets in a large Colonial home built by Gilmor Semmes Hamill, Sr., in 1908.

Several other homes were open for guests. Mrs. Harry White on Oak Street has followed Mr. Lowenstein and Miss Bert White in the same pleasant home, which has been open for nearly fifty years. Misses Margaret, Mamie and Annie Miller have kept their home ready for guests since



1925. Friends of many years are their patrons.

A popular home on High Street is kept by Mrs. Fike. This house was built by William O. Stall who came to Oakland from Pennsylvania and operated saw mills near Aurora. The house was built of selected slabs, still retaining the bark. It was called "The Bark House." In 1911, when Mr. Stall moved away, Mr. Gilmer S. Hamill, Sr. bought it and established his home on the hill. Recently the exterior has been entirely changed by application of asbestos shingles. It is now the "White House," instead of the familiar brown of the bark. This home is popular as a meeting place for clubs and groups of various kinds.

In reviewing the history of our mountain resorts, Monte Vista is the only summer hotel left of the original five popular hotels in Oakland. Monte Vista was built for a summer hotel by Dr. King of Washington, D.C. The location of the hotel makes it unusually attractive, not only to guests in the house, but for many persons who enjoy the extensive view, north, south, and east. From the long porch at Monte Vista you follow the line of the railroad along the valley of Big Backbone Mountain to Weber's then to Mtn. Lake Park on to Deer Park and Altamont in the east. Looking south toward the mountain top you can locate Table Rock on the Northwestern Turnpike, Route 50. Looking north, the Hoop Pole Ridge

Road, 219, winds along to Oakland, which is in the valley less than a mile distant. Dr. King's hotel was kept open under good management until his death in the 1890s. His brother in Chicago offered the place for sale. It was purchased by Col. Nelson Thomasson of Chicago to be used no longer as a hotel but as the summer home for his family. Until 1947 the family of Col. Thomasson kept Monte Vista, and in later years his son, Nelson, came each year with his family. One daughter was married in 1905 to Mr. Elwood Offutt of Oakland, and in the 1940s, Mrs. Offutt gave up her home in Oakland and took over the lovely old mountain home. Monte Vista, after forty years as a home for the family, was opened again as a hotel. Many persons have enjoyed the delightful hospitality of Monte Vista and rested in the delight of living on "top of the world." In October, 1947, Monte Vista was sold to a Mr. Custer, who planned to continue open house for guests each summer.

Of English descent, Richard Best Jamison came from Washington County in 1832 to Blooming Rose, the community named by Jonathan Bouchor, a clergyman of the Church of England, from the verses in Isaiah, Chapter 35, "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall bloom as a rose\*. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing." Mr. Jamison lived there until 1868,

\* "Rose" is the King James Version's translation of the flower in question. Your editor has found that later translations—The Revised Standard and the New English use "crocus" and "asphodel"—a lily.

when he moved to Oakland. In the family were two sons, Richard D. and Edmund, and one daughter, Florence. Richard Jamison served as Mayor in 1898, Edmund Jamison was elected Sheriff, and Florence Jamison married John T. Browning. They lived in the Jamison home and established the Browning House as a popular hotel. Browning House is managed now as an apartment hotel by members of the family, William Browning and Miss Saidee Browning.

Hotels of the past are of interest. The Glades Hotel, the Oakland Hotel, Bosley's, The Rest and Surmont all have contributed to the growth of Oakland. The first resort hotel to be built in Oakland was "The Glades." It was located on the south side of the railroad track sufficiently near enough to be a meal time stop for trains in the early days before dining cars were in use. Twenty minutes would give time for a quickly served meal. In 1858 the Glades Hotel was purchased from Perry Lyie by John Dailey. For over twenty years, Mr. Dailey dispensed hospitality for Oakland. He was born near Romney, Virginia, in 1850. From Baltimore, he came to Cumberland and became the manager of the Revere House. Hotel business attracted him, and he moved on to Oakland. His wife was Miss Rebecca Turley of Moorefield, Virginia. His daughter Mary was married to General George B. Crook of the Union Army, and his daughter Fannie married John M. Read, a lawyer in Allegany County. His son, Charles James Dailey, was one of McNeill's

Rangers in the Southern Army. For sixteen years this hotel was the central meeting place in Oakland. The first court sessions in Garrett County were held here. Famous guests were entertained; among them were the officials of the B&O Railroad, members of the Garrett family, Jefferson Davis, and Lt. William McKinley.

In 1874, the Glades Hotel was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in the same year. The location of the new Glades Hotel was built on the large lot, south of the railroad, away from the track. Giant oak trees shaded the grounds, a path led to the broad veranda, which extended across the entire front of the three story frame building. There were fifty guest rooms, spacious parlors, a lobby, and a large dining room which could be cleared for dancing. Fireplaces furnished heat. Two small cottages were built as annexes. The grounds of the hotel made an attractive park as they crossed the railroad to Second Street, where small summer houses were built and a rustic bridge spanned Wilson's Creek. Other prominent guests at the Glades were General Palmer, who wrote, "Stonewall Jackson's Way," and built the house on High Street adjoining the new cemetery, now used as an apartment house; William F. Cody, generally known as Buffalo Bill, and General B.F. Kelly of Wheeling. After the death of Mrs. Dailey in 1878 and of Mr. Dailey in 1881, the hotel was managed by John B. Brant, who had been associated in business with Mr. Dailey from 1858. Mrs. Crook and Mrs. Read kept possession of the

Hotel and were personally interested in its success. The land belonging to the Glades Hotel on Second Street was cut into building lots about 1866. Before the hotel was closed, Dr. E.H. Bartlett was the host for a time, also Mr. and Mrs. Body and Mr. and Mrs. Edward West.

The resort hotel at Deer Park, built in 1873, was so well patronized that the B&O Railroad Company had a second large hotel built at Oakland in 1875. The Oakland Hotel was almost a copy of the Deer Park Hotel, a three storied building, with long porches. It was built against the wooded background of Totten's Hill. A broad bridge crossed the Little Yougheny River, at the end of Wilson Street, near the Railroad Station. The roadway ended in a large circular driveway. The grounds surrounding the hotel were like a park. Along the river, a path through the maple, oak and pine trees led to a spring, which was called "Washington Spring" from the legend that General Washington stopped there for a drink when he made his journey on horseback over the mountain in 1784. Washington Spring can still be found, overgrown and neglected, near the river below the road to Crellin.

The Oakland and Deer Park Hotels were well advertised each season, and patrons returned from year to year. Travel to distant places and to Europe became easier, however, and when automobiles gave everyone the urge to see new places, resort hotel life lost its interest. The Oakland Hotel was sold to a group of medical men.

It was fitted as a Sanitarium in 1900. This was an expensive experiment that failed. The property was returned to the railroad company. In the same way, patronage at the New Glades Hotel dwindled, and it was closed. The New Glades Hotel was sold to the railroad in 1909. The buildings and furnishings were bought by a group of Oakland men, and D.E. Bolden and Austin Brown arranged auction sales of the furnishings and had the buildings taken down and sold for lumber. Many homes in and around Oakland are built in part from this lumber and have pieces of furniture from the hotels.

When Oak Street was extended to Crellin (Route 39) in the 1920s it followed the valley through the Oakland Hotel grounds. The grounds had been neglected from 1909 to 1930, when permission was given to the Oakland Civic Club, Miss Lottie Loar, President, to use the land of both the Oakland and Glades hotels for a recreation park. At that time disfiguring stumps and brush were removed and trees were planted by various organizations. For several years the park was used as an athletic field by the high school, and through the summer scheduled baseball games were played with teams from nearby towns. In 1932 pine trees reforesting the hillside were planted by the Boy Scouts, under the direction and inspiration of Miss Loar. The Glades Hotel grounds were plowed level and sown in grass. Trees were planted along the property line by order of the Civic Club. This land is still in use in



various ways for outdoor meetings. In 1939, the Carnation Milk Company purchased part of the Oakland Hotel grounds. Near the site of the hotel, a large milk depot was built. This prosperous enterprise gathers milk from three states for worldwide distribution the year around.

Among the first summer resort hotels to be established in Oakland was the Bosley House on Oak Street between 6th and 7th Streets. The proprietor was George L. Bosley, whose father Thomas Bosley of English and Irish ancestry had come to the Alleghenies from near Baltimore. He was married in 1834 to Catherine Rinehart, a daughter of George Rinehart of Sunnyside. Thomas Bosley and his wife lived near Sunnyside until 1860, when they moved to Oakland. Their son, George, pioneered to Iowa, but returned home to enlist in the Union Army. During the war, when he marched by with his company, he watched for the light in the window to signal all was well. Mr. Bosley was taken prisoner in 1862, though soon released. He was in active service until 1863.

Soon after Mr. Bosley's return from the Army, he commenced his new venture, opening a small hotel, which increased in popularity, so that additions were made until there were forty rooms to accommodate fifty guests. Long porches extended the full length of the house for both the first and second floors, with doors for three entrances. His wife, Miss Sarah Wheeler Ridenour of Aurora, Virginia, and the young

people of the family were gracious in assisting in the management and comfort of the hotel. The guests were of the finest type of visitor, who returned each season. It was a distinct loss to Oakland when the Bosley House was closed in 1920. The house was used for a short time by several families; later it was taken down and the best material used for other buildings. At present the site is vacant. The new home near Seventh Street was built by Dr. Bulard on the site of the Bosley House tennis court.

Summer hotels were popular in the years from 1870 to 1910; besides the Glades Hotel, the Oakland Hotel and Bosleys, we had "The Rest." Located on Seventh Street at Alder, the Rest is a large three story house built for Mr. John Swan of Baltimore. It was popular under the management of Mrs. Lily Morgan Hoff of Pittsburgh. After Mr. Swan's death, the management and patronage changed. The Hotel was rented for several years, then sold to Mr. Somerville of Grafton and managed by Miss Nellie Turley. Later, the property was bought by Mr. Warnick and changed into an apartment house.

Surmont, the hotel of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Procter of Cincinnati, located on the hill adjoining Crook Crest, was built in 1895. After the death of their only child, Percy, Jr., by drowning in Lake Cayuga, New York, Mr. Procter sold his home to Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Bush of Eglon, West Virginia, in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Bush had operated a small hotel on their

farm near Eglon, and they opened Surmont to their established patrons from Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Washington, Wheeling and Clarksburg. Surmont was a favorite resort and was a great loss to Oakland as well as to the owners when the house was destroyed by fire in 1926. After the fire Mr. and Mrs. Bush and their daughter, Ora,

moved to their bungalow on Pennington Street. This house was sold in 1944, with part of the Surmont land, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hoffnan. The property extending from Pennington Street to the top of the hill on which the old foundation is located, was sold in 1927 to Mrs. Stringfelow, of Gainesville, Florida.



### Hotels and Accommodations

1. Armstrong Tavern
2. Thayer Guest House
3. Shirer Hotel
4. Davis House
5. Central Hotel
6. Commercial Hotel
7. New Commercial Hotel/William James Hotel
8. The Pickwick Inn
9. Mrs. White's Guest Home
10. Miss Miller's Guest House
11. The Bark House
12. Browning House
13. Glades Hotel
14. Bosley House
15. The Rest
16. Surmont
17. Manhattan Hotel
18. Monte Vista

# Remembering Miss Elizabeth West

by John A. Grant

There is an article in this issue of *The Glades Star* by Miss Elizabeth West, who wrote about old taverns, rooming houses, and hotels that were in Oakland. Miss West was one of those unusual persons with a remarkable memory; she could take bits and pieces of historical facts and incorporate them into a complete recounting of an historical incident.

Some of the senior citizens of Oakland probably remember Miss West from their kindergarten days. For many years she conducted kindergarten classes in her home, where ever her family moved to in Oakland. (She and her parents lived in several different houses in the Oakland area.)

Of course, this brings into mind a story told to me by Thomas Dabney, who has his law office in a large house on Third Street that contained two apartments; Miss West once lived in the one downstairs. An elderly client was talking to Mr. Dabney and paused to ask, "Why does this room look familiar to me?" "Did you ever go to Miss West's kindergarten when you were a boy?" asked Mr. Dabney. "She used run a kindergarten classes in these rooms." "Ahh . . . Yes . . . Now I remember . . . I did go to kindergarten in this house," came the enlightened reply of the elderly client.

It was somewhat the same for



me as the years passed and I learned more about Miss West. When she was a Clerk to Trial Magistrate H.A. Loraditch (Trial Magistrate was a position formerly known as Justice of the Peace), Mr. Loraditch had his office next to my dad's dental office in the McComas building over the Oakland Pharmacy run by Joseph Harned. My dad once mentioned the fact that Miss West had been a clerk for her father, Edward West, when he was a J.P. many years ago. By the end of her career as Clerk, She had for worked for four different Justices or Magistrates over a forty-four year period.

I learned of her literary work in



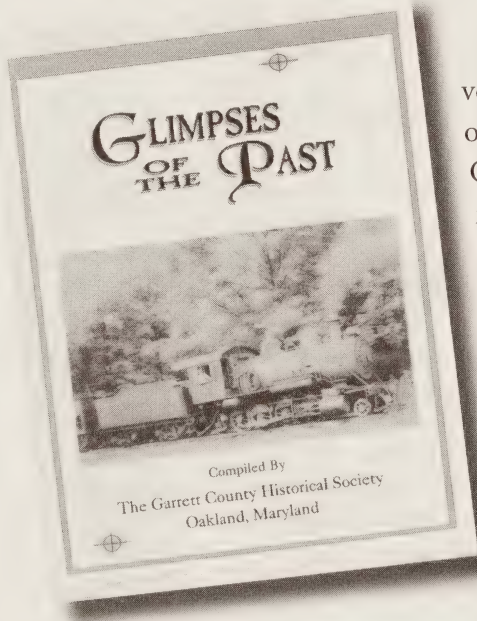
history when I became the Editor of *The Glades Star* in 1984. In the files of the Historical Society I found a group of historic papers she had written during the 1930s and early 1940s. Then I recalled that she knew a lot about the history of Garrett County and the State of Maryland; she not only knew about events but could, after a moment's thought, even give the date of that event. Miss West was one of the founding members of the Garrett County Historical Society, and was the Secretary of the organization for

a short time.

She was very proud of the fact that she had been related to former Governor Francis Thomas, who had a farm in the Savage River area in the 1800s. I once noted in the grave yard of St. Mark's Episcopal Church at Petersville, Frederick County, that the family plot of the West family is near the site of Gov. Thomas' grave.

And so we recall some of the life of a remarkable lady who was a teacher, legal clerk, and historian . . . Miss Elizabeth West.

# Glimpses of the Past



This wonderful volume of pictures of Garrett County's past is now available at the museum. It may be purchased there for just \$10.

# *That "Wild Spot"*

*by John A. Grant*

I didn't realize that a "Wild Spot" existed in our back yard until I moved back to Oakland and began living in the house where I was born and raised. Then, events of my childhood became alive again; I saw them repeated in one corner of the back yard.

My definition of a "wild spot" is a place where nature never released its hold on the land or released it for only a very short time. A wild spot can harbor all kinds of small creatures, plants and trees. The one in my back yard is part of a 50 foot circle touching the yard of my next door neighbor and two neighbors across the alley.

After looking at my wild spot, I also realized that I had seen many different ones of them over the years. I noted that they are not confined to a small yard like mine, but can exist in the middle of a farmer's field or in a far corner of his land. Also, they are not confined to remote places, but can exist in a metropolitan setting.

My first recollection of the wild spot in our back yard was after Dad took down the fence around the small chicken house in the back yard. (The fence extended from the chicken house to the corner of the yard.) When it was gone my brothers and I discovered that wild blackberries grew there, and proceeded to feast on them. Then we found that elderberries were growing on the alley side of this spot. During the winter and the next spring we saw rabbits in around

the scrub brush that was growing in that corner of the yard. Through the summer, small garter snakes could be seen crawling among the bushes.

During those childhood years, when a pet cat or dog died they were buried in that corner of the yard. Now and then, we'd find a dead bird in the yard, and it too was buried in the same corner.

As I mentioned before, I've seen similar wild spots even in a metropolitan setting. Some years ago, I was visiting a friend's house in Surrey, just outside London, England. One morning he said he hoped their dog's barking had not disturbed our sleep. Then he told us about a thicket of bushes and trees, perhaps 100 feet on each side, that had been created by the builder of the houses in that neighborhood. Among other things, it was the home of a family of foxes; they had been in his back yard during the night, which caused the dog to start barking.

His wife added a humorous story about the foxes. One evening, while they were watching television, the dog suddenly started barking and running back and forth toward a door in the TV room. There, looking through the full length glass in a door which led to their back yard, were two foxes. They didn't seem scared of the dog, and only left when the wife got up to shut off the television set.

The only thing I know of that can



**Bear Run hollow in Sang Run area.**

match the fox story is a happening which took place in my back yard about two years ago when a house guest was washing his automobile. While he was busy washing, a young deer came running down the alley, leaped through the pine trees around the wild spot, ran up the driveway to the front yard and disappeared across the street.

#### **WILDEST SPOT IN THE COUNTY?**

There are probably a number of places in the county which could compete for the "wildest spot" in Garrett County. Like so many other locations in the county, the title would depend on an individual's experience in that particular spot.

Back in the summers of 1941 and 1942, your author worked as a rod and chainman for C. Milton Sincell, County Surveyor. Naturally, the work took us to a number of wild spots all over the county; however, one of the wildest was Ben Run hollow across the Yough River from the Sang Run

community.

It had the thickest brush to be cut down for a survey line project. It was so thick that it seemed to me that we worked most of the day to get to a corner only several hundred feet away from the starting point. The hollow was the home of countless deer and snakes. A hundred or more years ago, hunters from Sang Run had killed a bear in the hollow.

Added to all this is the legend of a man from over near Cranesville who was walking down the Sang Run Road (which runs along one edge of the hollow) and got thrown into a thorn tree by a Big Foot type of creature.

He never drank a drop of liquor after that.

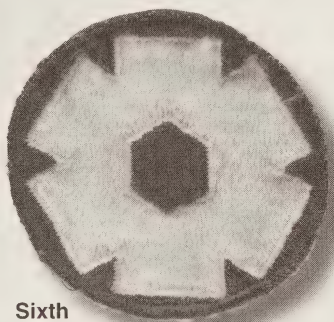
#### **ONCE MORE IN OAKLAND.**

With many memories over the years, I can't help but conclude there is something unusual about that corner of our yard, which I have called the "wild spot." . . . Perhaps, Nature is still trying to take it back again!



## *Army Sleeve Patches from World War II*

In the March 2007 issue of *The Glades Star*, Paul Shogren asked your help in identifying shoulder patches worn by soldiers in WWII. He has now been able to identify them all and wishes to pass on this information with thanks. These patches are for service commands set up for administrative purposes.



Sixth  
Service  
Command



Fifth  
Service  
Command



Third  
Service  
Command



First  
Service  
Command



Manhattan  
Project  
A-Bomb

# *Christmas Lights in George's Creek Valley*

*by John A. Grant*

George's Creek valley runs from Frostburg to Westernport, and has such a concentration of Celtic people that it could easily be called the "Celtic Valley."

There are the Irish around Midland, the Welsh in Barton and the Scots in between at Lonaconing. At no other time of the year than the Christmas season are the individual Celtic folklore customs more evident; predominant is "Lighting the way for the Christ child."

It is expressed by thousands of colored lights in hundreds of homes that can be seen by a person driving down through the valley on Rt. 36 and the many side roads between towns. In addition there are countless displays of Christmas themes; the wise men, the creatures associated with the manger at Christ's birth, Christmas trees, and many others.

In addition to the night displays, many old customs observed during the day time of holiday period, such as "first footing."

Of course, the Celtic people are not the only people living in George's Creek Valley today. Settlers from various northern European countries now live in the valley, and have brought their folklore customs with them as well. They have joined with the Celts in joyous Christmas displays.

For anyone who is bored with the commercialization of the Christmas holiday, it is suggested that a person drive down through the George's Creek Valley during the Christmas period and see the expression of folklore in the thousands of colored lights that are displayed there. It will bring back memories of Christmases past, and renew his spirits.

## *Museum Winter Hours*

The Museum will begin its winter hours on January 2, 2008.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

# Thanksgiving Blizzard of 1974

by John A. Grant



**It took Oakland about four days to clean up the snow.**

**T**he blizzard began on Sunday, December 1, 1974, when thousands of motorists were returning home following the Thanksgiving holiday. Very quickly, it closed every good road in Garrett County. The Civil Defense authorities estimated that between 2,500 and 3,000 persons were stranded in the Garrett and Allegany Counties for at least two days; the storm dumped over 30 inches of snow on every good highway.

Technically, it might not be classed as a blizzard, because the temperature did not drop very much below the 30 degree mark; but by whatever name it could be known, the massive storm brought a lot of misery to the mountain top.

Not only did it disrupt highway traffic, but it downed power lines, and burned out electric transformers at many places in the county.

The storm caused the employ-



ment of every possible emergency crew member who could get to the crew's assembly point; road crews, police, firemen and rescue squads worked 'round the clock.'

Stranded motorists stayed in many private homes. Along U.S. routes 40, 50, and 219 they were housed in schools, taverns, and fire halls. Of these Grantsville fire hall, Mc Henry fire hall, Oakland fire hall, and Northern High School had the largest concentrations of stranded motorists overnight. Surprisingly, on Rt. 135 the accumulation of snow was not as heavy as on other highways, and it was open to all traffic by Monday.

Snow continued to fall on Monday and Tuesday, but not in the heavy squalls as experienced on Sunday.

Ironically, one Oakland group got stranded in Cumberland. This was the Southern High School band, which was returning from New York City, where they had marched in the annual Thanksgiving Day parade. They spent the Sunday night at the Salvation Army headquarters in Cumberland, and returned home on Monday morning.

Civil Defense and National Guard were among the busiest units during the storm. With so many stranded travelers housed in fire halls and schools, there was a great need for blankets. The Hagerstown National Guard unit transported 300 blankets into the county and they were distributed to spots needing them on Monday. On Tuesday, with the failure of electrical power to so many homes, the National Guard armory in Oakland became available for those deprived of heat and cooking facilities by the storm.

By Tuesday, many of the highways were open again and the stranded motorists were able to continue towards their homes.

#### ONLY AN UNPLEASANT MEMORY

Today, the Thanksgiving storm is only an unpleasant memory for most people who had to endure the storm. Many of them can only remember it was "sometime in the 1970s," but the exact year has been forgotten; however, to the credit of the Garrett County citizens, should such a storm happen again, they would "go all out" for travelers stranded on the local highways.

## Address Change

A reminder that the Historical Society's address has changed. All correspondence, including the enclosed Furnace Fund envelope and annual dues (\$20), should be sent to:

107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550.

# Logging History of Garrett County to the Mid-1900s

by Paul Shogren

*Editor's Note: This is the first of a two-part article. It will introduce the terms and tools of the wood-products industry and acquaint the reader with the myriad of wood products produced during the Age of Wood—1700s to the mid-1900s—when they were considered necessities. The second part of this history, which will appear in the March issue of The Glades Star, will answer the question "When, how and why did the removal of the old-growth take place within the county?"*

Wood products have been used from our earliest history to the present, but the great demand arose from pre-Civil War days to the advent of World War II when the

"Age of Plastic" began. This demand for wood products was readily met by the logger and saw miller, especially when steam power became more common in the woods and mill and used in the transport of wood by steam locomotives.

The downside of this rush to supply the demand was that the cutting was done in an unrestricted manner with little concern for fire and erosion control and the future. Such attitudes changed slowly during the advent of forestry in Maryland in 1906. (See "100 Years of Forestry and State Parks in Maryland" in the September 2006 issue of *The Glades Star*.) Nowadays logging and milling are conducted in



A landing on Meadow Mountain. The men are holding peaveys.



**A Shay locomotive. It was specially designed to traverse steep grades and sharp curves of the woods railroads, hauling logs from the woods to the mill. No. 6 was the largest and last Shay used in Maryland.**

a logical and sustainable manner with forest fires under control.

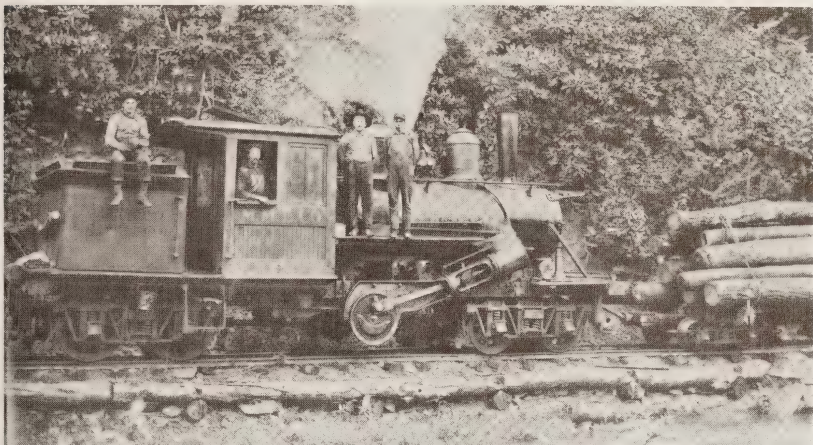
To give the reader a broader picture of the uses of wood products that were regarded as necessities the following list is provided. Read and be amused!

- Construction (2x4s, et al.)
- Pulp and paper
- Plywood
- RR ties
- Mine timbers
- Toothpicks
- Children's toys
- Shoe heels
- Tan bark
- River barges
- Minesweepers (wooden hulls do not attract magnetic mines)
- Gunstocks
- Slide rules
- Carpenter and architectural rules
- Yardsticks
- Fence posts and pickets
- Farm implements
- Lath for plaster



**A Heisler locomotive. Very few were used in Maryland.**





**A Climax locomotive belonging to the Meadow Mountain Lumber Co.**

- Fruit and vegetable crates—converted by children into shields, swords, wagons, etc.
- Kindling bundles of kiln-dried wood used to start the coal burning in stoves. The bundles were started by wooden matches called ‘Ohio Blue Tips’ or ‘Barn burners’ because they were strike-anywhere matches.
- Work boats—skipjacks, et al.
- Naval stores—turpentine and pitch for caulking
- Masts
- Docks, wharves
- Plank roads and sidewalks
- Fuel for heating and cooking
- Wood alcohol
- Station wagon bodies, auto floorboards
- Excelsior (shredded wood for packing)
- Cardboard
- Wainscoting



**A steam-powered log loader of the Knabb & Kendall Lumber Co. near Kendall at the confluence of the Youghiogheny River and Laurel Run south of Friendsville.**



Stack after stack of barrel staves at the A. Knabb Lumber Co. at Krug, just south of Kendall.



Finished barrels loaded for shipment at the Knabb Co.

- Packaging and crating
- Scaffolding
- Shingles
- Bridges
- Barrels for storing dry and liquid goods
- Wagons (Conestoga, et al.)
- Charcoal
- Airplanes (World War I)
- Gun caissons (World War I)
- Skis
- Snowshoes
- Pack boards for man packing
- Pack saddles for animal packing
- Utility poles
- Privies
- Shoes
- Flooring
- Furniture
- Clothes pins
- Caskets

How many more can you list?

Here are some logging and saw milling terms and implements mentioned in Part 2 of this article.

**Skidding**—moving cut logs from the forest to a **landing** (a gathering place for logs to be loaded for transport to the mill.

**Floating**—a method of transporting logs to the mill by moving them by water.





**Tannery Crew, Ottaway, Md.**

**A tannery crew at Ottaway. Garrett County had several tanneries that used white oak and hemlock bark to tan cowhides for shoe leather before the advent of chemical tanning.**

**Corks**—caulked boots with small spikes driven through their leather soles needed for stability and safety in logging and floating.

**Cable logging**—using steam-powered drums and wire rope to skid logs to a landing.

**Loader**—a mechanical or steam-powered crane for loading logs at the landing onto sleds or flat cars.

**Geared locomotive**—steam powered, driving all wheels geared to three upright pistons mounted on the right side of the engine. Three makes were used: Climax, Heisler, and Shay. Used only in the woods and around the mill site.

**Peavey**—pointed, long-handled tool with a swinging hook attached for moving or rolling logs in the woods.

**Cant hook**—same as a peavey but with a stub end for moving logs in the mill.

**Pike pole**—long, slender pole with a metal point and hook at the end for moving logs from the mill pond to the “bull chain” that takes logs into the mill.

**Sawmill**—there were and are basically only two types of mills for sawing lumber: circular and band. The former uses a circular saw up to 72 inches in diameter that cuts a quarter-inch kerf (width of the cut). The latter uses a band saw that is a continuous strip of steel about one inch wide and perhaps 16 feet long slipped over two powered wheels with teeth cut into either one or both sides and cutting either a one-eighth or one-quarter inch.



# Fund Raising Dinner

by John A. Grant

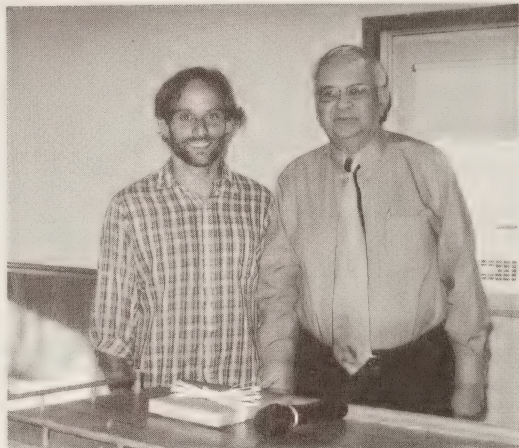
On Thursday evening, Sept. 13, over 120 friends and members of the Historical Society attended a fund raising dinner at Pleasant Valley Community Center. The purpose of the dinner was to raise money for a new furnace and air conditioning unit in the Society's museum in Oakland.

President Robert Boal opened the dinner meeting at 6:30 p.m. and asked Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to give the invocation.

The ladies of the Community Center were not quite ready to begin serving food, so Pres. Boal asked Mrs. Billy Cross to come to the speaker's platform and talk about her Bicentennial Quilt which was on display in the hall. It was given away at a drawing on October 13. Mrs. Cross talked about the design on the quilt and how she arrived at the idea for the design.

When it came time to eat, the people once more ate the delicious main course, followed by two kinds of pie and ice cream.

Before the entertainment of the evening began, Pres. Boal gave several brief announcements. He was followed by Miss Edith Brock who talked about the museum and said that there had been over 6,000



**President Bob Boal and Jazz Band Leader Steve Bortigern.**

visitors there so far this season. Terry Helbig made a brief announcement about the proposed furnace and air conditioning unit. He said that work at the museum would begin in about a month.

A birthday gift was given to Secretary Alice Eary for her continued good work as Board of Directors' Secretary.

The door prize was won by Eloise Welling.

The entertainment for the evening was a jazz concert by the Sugarfoot Stompers. This group played at the annual business meeting in June, and were enthusiastically greeted by the people attending this meeting. Their program ended at 8:15 p.m. and that concluded the evening's activity.

# Naming of Negro Mountain

by John A. Grant



Sign on U.S. Route 40.

*Ed. Note: Recently, there have been a number of inquiries as to the origin of the name of Negro Mountain. It was the result of a skirmish that took place during the period of history known as the French and Indian War. The skirmish took place on June 30, 1756.*

In 1884 J. Thomas Scharf compiled a two volume *History of Western Maryland*. He drew his historical material from many sources such as the *Maryland Gazette* and the diaries of notable persons. Included in Scharf's

writings were details of the skirmish on Negro Mountain. This took place after the defeat of General Braddock in 1755. The following article was material written for *The Glades Star* in December 1995.

#### AFTERMATH OF BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT

Following the defeat of General Braddock in 1755, the Indians unleashed a reign of terror on the Appalachian frontier for the next seven years. Hundreds of white settlers who had moved west of the Allegheny wa-



**Sign on Interstate 68.**

tershed were murdered, their cabins burned and their fields laid to waste.

As a defense against the Indian warriors, the settlers formed bands of "rangers" to give warning of impending danger and to go to the relief of stockades surrounded by Indians. During this period, the Indians pillaged to within 12 miles of Frederick, Maryland.

#### **ORGANIZED RETRIBUTION**

To men like Thomas Cresap the reign of terror was an affront to their former peaceful trade and friendship with the Indians. Cresap himself had Chief Nemacolin and his tribe cut out a pack horse train to the Monongahela River on behalf of the Virginia Company for a trading route to carry supplies into the western reaches of the frontier and bring out furs for shipment to England.

When the Indians attacked Cresap's trading post in October 1775, he and the other settlers decided it was

time to give the Indians a "taste of their own medicine." Plans were made to counter attack the Indians with an organized group of "Rangers."

In the spring of 1776, 60 Rangers marched westward over the mountains to engage the Indian warriors. Included in Cresap's Rangers was a Negro slave named Nemesis, renowned as a "crack shot" with a gun.

Cresap was joined at Fort Cumberland by Christopher Gist, another frontiersman and trader, who had a company of volunteers from Virginia.

The first engagement with the Indians was at Great Crossing of the Youghiogheny River. The Indians withdrew after a brief skirmish leaving seven Indians and one Frenchman dead. Cresap and Gist continued with forays against the Indians throughout May and June of 1776.

On June 30 of that year, the Rang-





**Roadside park on U.S. Route 40.**

ers marched west of Fort Cumberland along the road built by General Braddock. At the top of a mountain they surprised a party of marauding Indians and a running battle took place. The Negro slave Nemesis was killed and he was buried by his fellow Rangers on top of the mountain; the name "Negro Mountain" has eulogized Nemesis' bravery as a member of the Rangers ever since that time.

Today, the mountain is identified by two highway signs: one on Interstate 68, and a second one on Rt. 40. The one on the Interstate is simply a sign giving the name of the mountain and the elevation of the highway at

that point. However, the one on Rt. 40 is a different matter. It is also at the crest of the mountain but it is located in a beautiful roadside park.

The roadside park has more than a sign giving the name and elevation. It also has a sign containing the fact that it is the highest point on the old National Road (now U.S. 40) which once terminated in St. Louis, and formed the road west for early settlers a century and a half ago. In addition to the information about the National Road, there is a paragraph about Nemesis and the battle with the Indians.

# GCHS Bicentennial Quilt Raffle

## A win, win situation!

On Sunday afternoon, October 14, 2007, the winning ticket for the GCHS fund raising raffle was drawn at the museum gazebo. The Southern Maryland Museum guest who won the prized "American Bicentennial Quilt" by local quilter, Elsie "Billie" Cross, very generously sold the quilt back to the museum for historical display. The net amount raised for the Furnace/AC Replacement Fund was \$1,100.

Sincere thanks to Billie for such talent and generosity and to Rose Wagner of Bel Alton, MD, who held the winning ticket.

661  
Name ROSE WAGNER  
Address 8811 DOVE DR  
BEL ALTON, MD 20611  
Phone 301-932-1060



Billie Cross and her quilt and the winning ticket.

# *New Furnace/AC Up- date*

## **Again, a win, win situation!**

As of November 1, our new heating system—two new, efficient gas boilers—is installed and in operation. The air conditioning units will be installed soon, thus finishing one the the largest and most expensive projects ever undertaken at the GCHS Museum!

Thanks to fund raising dinners and concerts, a fund drive in *The Glades Star*, a quilt raffle, and the extreme generosity of a local family trust, the GCHS did not have to borrow for completion of this project. The Board of Directors and officers of the Historical Society wish to express their sincere appreciation to members, local contributors, and especially to the family whose great love for the heritage of Garrett County made all of this happen.

The museum continues to encourage donations to the Furnace Fund so as to replace the Elevator-Lift Chair Fund, which the first curator, Mary Virginia Jones, graciously allowed the Society to put toward the furnace and air conditioner if necessary. A lift chair is still greatly needed for elderly and handicapped access to the second floor of the museum building, where offices are rented, artifacts and books are stored, and other rooms are available for Historical Society benefit.

## *Furnace Fund Donations*

David & Helene Wheeler  
Offutt & Joan Johnson  
Kimberly Connaughton  
Charles L. Byer  
Pauline Faucett  
Edith Browning  
Jane V. Humbertson  
Neil D. Wolfe  
Sally Durrant  
Constance Nicholson  
Lucille Ludvigsen  
S. Ivan & Mabel Rowe  
Mary V. Murray  
Mrs. John Yonker  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mosser  
Robert & Rita Watson

Sull & Brenda McCartney  
Mrs. Kenneth McClure  
Thomas & Shirley Bernard  
Mary Alice Fries  
Dr. James H. Feaster, Jr  
Robert L. Ault  
Mrs. John Beerbower  
Constance Beachy  
James & Shirley Munford  
H. Donald & Carol Moss  
Samuel W. Barrow, Jr.  
H. Edward Peters  
Troy & Frances Gnegy  
A very generous anonymous gift  
for the furnace by a former local  
family



# Oakland Accessions

August 22, 2007, through November 13, 2007

- 1898 Boiling Springs, Deer Park, painted milk can, unknown Kent  
Manufacturing ceramic item ..... *gifts from Kevin Callis*
- Memories of the Sturgiss Pharmacy, Sturgiss prescription paper,  
Sturgiss pictures, Sturgiss Pharmacy soda fountain price list,  
three tin types ..... *gifts from William Sturgiss Lind*
- Walman picture ..... *gift from Dale Fike*
- T. Harrison Garrett Cottage (Turnbull Cottage)  
picture ..... *gift from Charles McIntire*
- Deer Park Hotel parasol, unknown wooden box ..... *gifts from Nancy Stewart*
- McHenry Grange ribbon, belonged to Archibald  
Glotfelty ..... *gift from Sandra Savage*
- Garrett National Bank, Mtn. Lake Park ad, three Garrett National Bank  
booklets, Deep Creek Lake brochure, Marsh Mountain brochure,  
Garrett National Bank tote bag, B&O/C&O paperweight, two  
*Arithmetic by Grades* books, GC dog license (sprayed) application,  
GC Community Economic Inventory, GC Centennial (Things to  
see places to visit), Portrait of Liberty, 1968 Southern  
High School—Evaluation ..... *gifts from Jacquelyn Shirer*
- Oakland Centennial newspaper clipping, from the family of Willard and Mary  
Elliott ..... *gift from Willard Ann Elliott*
- Doctor's office scales, antique adding machine, two magazine  
racks ..... *gifts from Dr. Herbert Leighton*
- Wemer Family history ..... *gift from Dr. Lawrence Sherwood*
- Oakland High School Department of Agriculture brochure,  
1927-1928, five pictures, three J.M. Davis Hardware  
booklets ..... *gifts from Phyllis Helbig*
- Carriage throw, belonged to Melissa Glover  
O'Brien ..... *gift from Arletta Bittinger*
- CCC check copy, belonged to Edgar Sines  
(never cashed) ..... *gift from Deloris Murphy*
- Cornelius Ward Friend genealogy ..... *gift from Patty Friend Thompson*
- Small slide rule with homemade case, ten inch slide rule, slide rule instruction  
booklet ..... *gifts from Edna Wonderly*
- Two white baby dresses, three pairs of baby shoes,  
lady's compact ..... *gifts from Nancy DeWitt Savage*
- Southern Garrett High School alumni book ..... *gift from Southern High School*
- 1934 Farmers Bank, First National Bank, Garrett National  
Bank code ..... *gifts from Rosalie Minard McNish*
- Camp Whitethorn/Minnetoska booklet ..... *gift from Charles Royer*

- Girl Scout time capsule ..... *gift from Garrett County Girl Scouts*
- Two pictures of 75 Second Street, the house next to the  
William James Hotel.....*gift from James G. Smart*
- 10¢ Fractional Currency, 1874, in memory of Father David Gonder, \$1.00  
Silver Certificate, 1899, in memory of Father David Gonder and Max  
Jarboe who gave it to David, unusual \$2.00 bill, in memory of Father  
David Gonder.....*gifts from Kitty Gonder*
- Where the Potomac Begins*..... *gift from Ariel Robinson*
- The Brenneman History..... *gift from Barbara Chesley*
- Waterfalls at Chisholm's Mill picture, and a farm scene  
picture .....*gifts from Anita Warnick Ranson*
- Dr. Andrew Mance picture. Textbook of Surgery that belonged to Dr. Irving  
Baumgartner.....*gifts from Bob Boal*
- Loch Lynn picture, home of Clarence M. Rathburn,  
first mayor .....*gift from the Estate of Audrey Bowman*
- Civil War jacket, cape and information, belonged to Samuel  
Falkner ..... *gifts from Cliff DeWitt, and Dr. Harold Ashby,  
Martha Lou Ashby Rinehart, Robert Proudfoot, and William Shirer memorials*
- 1901 Oakland Hotel pictures ..... *gifts from Bob and Leanna Boal,  
and Bob and Gretchen Shaffer*
- Garrett County Court House lot plans..... *gifts from Joe Keating*
- Mtn. Lake Park Chautauqua poster ..... *loan from Dolores Hayden*
- Oakland train wreck picture ..... *gift from Jane Hanst Brown*
- Roller Skates.....*gift from Leo McBee*
- Two Oakland Railroad Street  
pictures.....*gifts from Dorothy Armstrong and Linda Henn*
- Oakland High School sports picture, National Limited menu,  
Oakland Second Street postcard.....*gifts from Virginia Lawton*
- Deer Park Hotel mirror, 1918 Fair View School  
picture ..... *gifts from JoAnne Lewis*
- Maryland House Journal, 1931, 1935, and 1936 Laws of Maryland,  
House and Senate—1880 ..... *gifts from Arthur X. Cullers*
- Samuel Falkner picture.....*gift from Roy Umbel*
- Suffragette ribbon, small glass dish ..... *gifts from Sally Hoffinan Durrant*
- Child's folding camp chair, child's twig table and three chairs, small wooden  
foot stool, reed rug beater, antique crutches, painted plank bottom chair,  
costumes, linens, youth chair, doll bed, yarn winder and rope bed,  
from the Charlotte McCutcheon Estate .....*gifts from Sherry Gore*
- Suffragette ribbon "Votes for Women" and picture of  
Sallie Lashorn Hoffman ..... *gifts from Sally Hoffman Durrant*
- Home of the Brave ..... *gift from Terry Helbig*
- Civil War Showcase, etc.....*gift of Daniel Offutt III*

## *Memorials*

### **Leah Brenneman**

John Brenneman

### **Luvada S. Foley**

#### **Rinehart**

Dwight Foley

### **Robert Proudfoot**

Bob and Leanna Boal

Mary Virginia Jones

Offutt and Joan Johnson

Sue McHale

Dr. and Mrs. James H.

Feaster, Jr.

Bob and Linda Stephens

Helen Kahl

Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence

Sherwood

Kenneth and Lisbeth

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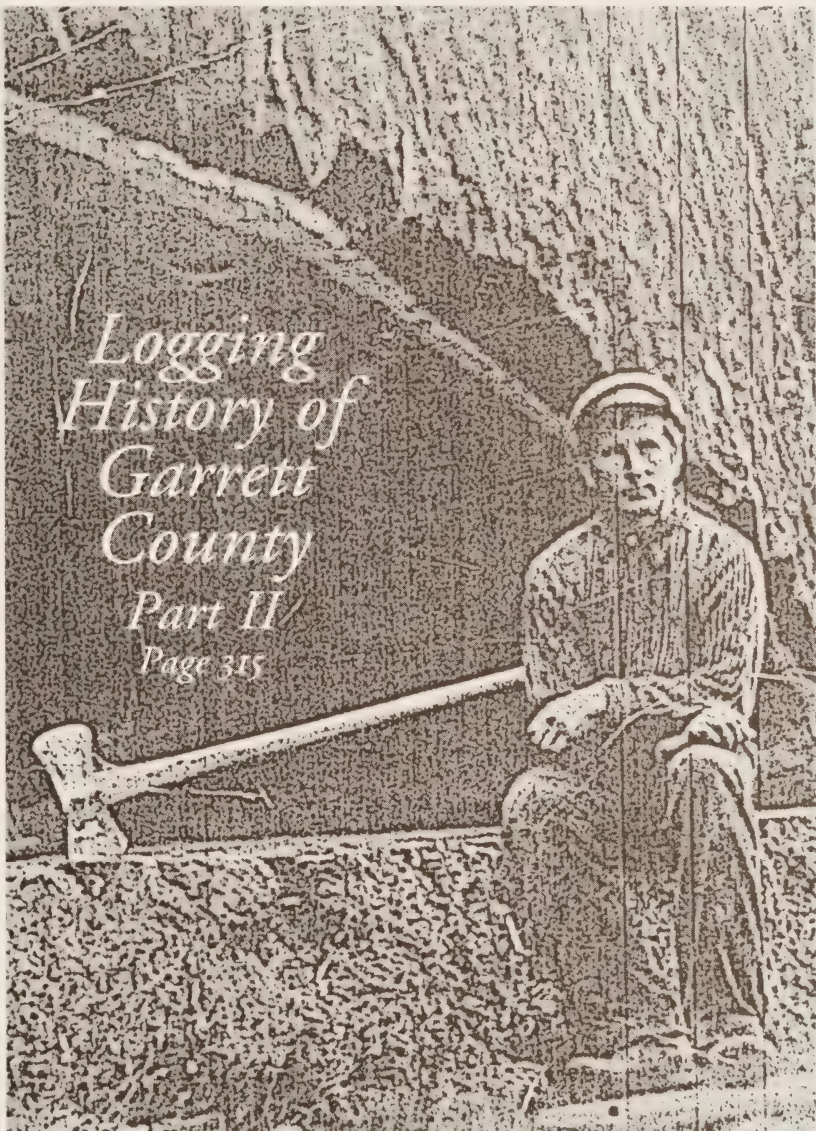
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OAKLAND, MARYLAND

MARCH 2008

*Logging  
History of  
Garrett  
County  
Part II  
Page 315*





## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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# Logging History of Garrett County

## PART II

by Paul Shogren



The largest tree ever felled in West Virginia. It was milled at the Kendall Mill at Crellen.

*Editor's Note: Part I of this story appeared in the December 2007 issue of the Glades Star. It introduced the terms, tools, and products of the lumber industry.*

The removal of old-growth timber in Garrett County began when the first settlers arrived in the late 1700s. During this period the energy of the settlers was directed to providing food, clothing, and shelter plus clearing ground for farming. The settlers had two views of the old-growth forest. On the one hand, the forest provided logs for shelter, fencing, and tools as well as food like berries, sassafras, ramps, and venison. On the other

hand, the large diameter hardwoods were looked upon as impediments to the clearing of the timber for farm land. This took a tremendous amount of labor and was not accomplished quickly. Trees, many over four feet in diameter, had first to be girdled and underbrush cleared so that a first-year crop of corn or grain could be planted between trees. Then began the laborious task of felling these giants, which were not used for shelter or fencing, and dragging them into piles for burning (the ashes were used for fertilizer). After the felling, stump pulling began, requiring a great deal of human and animal labor. The pulled stumps were



**Personnel at a lumber camp on Meadow Mountain.**

then removed to the field edges to make fences. Since all the labor was directed to providing the essentials for family survival in the early days, none was left to engage in any commercial wood products enterprises.

The commercial period began after the Civil War when there was an increase in the national demand for wood products and the coming of the B&O Railroad to transport such products, mainly to the northern, eastern, and southeastern parts of the country. The first recorded commercial saw mill was established by William Ashby in 1870 on land now occupied by the town of Crellin. It was a water-powered up-and down mill that cut pine for local use. The logs were felled nearby and either floated down Snowy Creek or hauled to the mill by horses.

The age of steam arrived in the county shortly thereafter in the form

of steam-powered mills and geared locomotives—the Shay, Climax, and Heisler (see Part I of this story)—for hauling logs out of the forest. These geared engines were able to climb steep grades, negotiate sharp curves, and haul heavy loads over loosely laid ties and rails. The coming together of steam-powered logging and the B&O RR provided for a great increase in lumbering in the county from the 1890s to the mid-1900s.

The main logging and mill operations were centered around Crellin, Friendsville, and Meadow Mountain and the Casselman, Savage, and Potomac River valleys and to a lesser extent around Oakland. Some of the saw mill villages that existed during the Commercial Era are listed below:

Hutton	Foxtown
Skipnish	Crabtree
Krug	Bond





**Company housing at the mill in Oldtown, Maryland.**

Kendall	Jennings
Swallow Falls	Kempton
Herrington Manor	Vindex
Thayerville	Steyer
Shafertown	Wilson
Bear Creek	Wallman
Davis	

As an example of a mill's production and the variety of products, the Kendall Mill at Crellen, which operated from 1892 to 1925 and drew logs from both Garret County and neighboring West Virginia, turned out:

- 359 million feet of lumber
- 63 million feet of lath
- 2 million feet of coke flats
- 121 thousand shingle squares
- 52 thousand cords (4'x4'x8') of fire wood
- 18 thousand palings (fencing)
- 4 million mine props
- 35 thousand railroad ties
- 18 thousand locust posts
- 15 thousand telegraph poles
- 3 rail cars of tanbark
- 283 rail cars of pulpwood

Also at that mill in 1913 was sawn the largest tree ever felled in West Virginia—a white oak, 13 feet in diameter 16 feet from the ground and 10 feet in diameter 31 feet from the ground. It had to be dynamited into quarters before it could be hauled to the mill on flat cars, and it is well to remember it was felled by skilled fallers using axe, crosscut saw, and wedges.

From the above example one question might be, "What species of timber were cut from the old growth?" At the higher elevations and ridge tops grew Red Spruce. White Pine, Hemlock, Beech, Birch, and Maple were taken at the middle elevations, and at the lower elevations and in the valleys there were Oak, Walnut, Cherry, and Chestnut. In general, the soft woods were milled into construction lumber, shingle shakes, and pulpwood. The hardwoods were used in construction, flooring, furniture and later, pulp.

Men who worked in the woods



Logging Railroads of Maryland

A.K.	A. Knabb & Co.
A.M.	A. G. Miller & Co.
A.W.C.	A. W. Cook & Co.
B.&B.	Ballot & Billmeyer
B.C.L.	Bear Creek Lumber Co.
B.C.R.	Bear Creek Railroad
B.J.L.	Blue Jay Lumber Co., Ltd.
B.&O.	Baltimore & Ohio Railroad
C.&M.	Clark & McCullough
C.&O.	Confluence & Oakland Railroad
C.R.R.	Cassleman River Railroad
C.R.	Chaffee Railroad
C.V.	Cassleman Valley Railroad
D.&B.B.	DuBois & Bond Brothers
D.&B.	Dimeling & Bloom
G.B.	George D. Browning
G.L.C.	Garrett Lumber Co.
G.R.R.	Green Ridge Railroad
H.D.	Hench-Dromgold & Schull
H.G.D.	Henry G. Davis
J.B.	Jennings Brothers
J.B.D.	J. B. Davis
J.L.C.	Juniata Lumber Co.
J.P.M.	Johnstown Planing Mill Co.
K.L.C.	Kendall Lumber Co. (2)
K.L.Co.	Kulp Lumber Co. of Allegany County, Maryland

L.H.L.	Lock Haven Lumber Co.
M. M. L.	Meadow Mountain Lumber Co*
M. L.	McMillian Lumber Co.
M. G.	Morrison-Gross & Co.
McK.	McKelvey Brothers Forest Products, Inc.
N. M. & T.	Northern Maryland & Tidewater Railroad
N. M. L.	Northern Maryland Lumber Co.
P. L.	Potomac Lumber Co.
P. L. & C.	Preston Lumber & Coal Co.
P. R. R.	Preston Railroad
R.	J. L. Rumbarger
S. & C.	Stemple & Casteel
S. K.	Sylvester Rinard
S. R.	Skipnish Railroad
3 F.	Three Forks Lumber Co.
W. L.	Wilson Lumber Co. (2)
W. V. C.	West Virginia & Pittsburgh Railway Co.
W. W.	William Whitmer & Sons Co.

Bracketed numbers behind company title denotes number of operations worked under that title. Only portions of the main line of the Baltimore & Ohio, West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh, Preston and the Confluence & Oakland Railroads are shown.

This map shows the general location of the logging railroads, but length and exact location are not to scale. See text and detail maps for specific details. Where practical, all maps based on the U. S. Geological Survey 15 minute series of topographical maps.

lived in camps where room and board were provided free. Wives sometimes accompanied their husbands into the camps and some became cooks, one of the most important jobs because "wood hicks" demanded food, "good and plenty." In 1907 the head cook's daily wage was \$3.00; the assistant cooks received \$1.50 - \$1.75. The blacksmith was paid \$2.50/day; the filer, faller, teamster, sealer, clerk, and road monkey, \$2.00. The swamper and limber were paid at the level of the assistant cook. The camps operated 12 hours a day, six days a week, weather permitting.

In the mill towns, families lived in company houses and shopped at the company store. (The store in Crellin still stands.) Pay was higher because room and board were not furnished. Mill hands followed the same six 12-hour days' work schedule as the "wood hicks."

No one wore hard hats and it was

dangerous in both places where men were hurt or killed by "widow makers"—falling trees, rolling logs, and saw splinters. Skidding logs out of the woods was done by horse, mule, ox, floating, steam cable systems, or troughs of split logs that used gravity to move logs down slope and, of course, geared locomotives. Roads, rails, and floatable streams were all laid out to get logs to the mill.

The Great Depression, the development of plastics during World War II, and increased use of diesel at about the same time brought the Age of Steam and unrestricted logging to an end. Most of the old growth was removed and replaced with second- and third-growth hardwoods. The wood products industry remains an important employer and money maker in the county's economy. The industry is safer and higher paid, and trees are cut in a more rational and sustainable manner. So the logging

## *Memorials*

### **Judge Lewis Jones**

Thomas and Despina Jones

### **Margaret DiSimone**

Joseph DiSimone

### **Rosaline Schrock Hardesty**

Richard and Carolyn Flude

Offutt and Joan Johnson

Ken and Wanda Hardesty

Charles Menke

Raymond and Patricia Rogers

### **Mary Virginia Bolden Murray**

Mary Virginia Jones

Mary Fraley

Dr. Mahlon Johnson

Col. Bonnie Johnson

### **William W. Grant**

Jacquelyn Shirer

Sharon R. Grant

Kenneth Hardesty

Margaret K. Germain

Ed and Mary Ann Brislin

## *In Honor Of:*

### **Mary Virginia Jones**

Thomas and Despina Jones

Marianna G. Naylor

### **Bob and Leanna Boal**

Martha DeBerry



# Washington's Journeys to the West and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal

*Editor's note: Here is another of Elizabeth West's histories of the Alleghenies and Western Maryland from the museum's archives. See the December 2007 issue of the Glades Star for her piece on Oakland's hotels and rooming houses of yesteryear and for information on Miss West herself.*

Some of the most dramatic experiences in the varied career of George Washington are revealed in his travels as recorded in his diary. In 1784 he joined his friend George William Fairfax on a surveying trip; part of their journey brought them to the South Branch of the Potomac. From this first trip through virgin country at the age of sixteen until 1798 when he made his last journey, considering the method of travel, he explored every available route. In our section of the Alleghenies we have records of his journeys in the historic tablets erected in 1932. Four are on the Braddock Road and one is near Oakland at Friend's, which is now the Glotfelky Farm on the Crellin Road, and one on Route 219 marks Archy's Spring, owned by Paul M. Friend. One other recorded stopping place is near Gormaniana at Logston's.

George Washington searched diligently to obtain information about the nearest and best route between the eastern and western waters. With other interested friends he planned to

build a canal with a portage over the mountain from the Potomac River to the Cheat River. It was with this survey in mind that he came along the Monongahela River near Morgantown and sought the nearest route to the Potomac. He ventured along McCullough's Path, the mountain trail across the glades near Oakland, going into Ryan's Glade to Logston's home on the Potomac River. Many routes for the canal were considered. The following story about the canal is in part from an article published in 1928 when a celebration was held in Washington, D.C., commemorating the breaking of ground for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

The history of the C&O Canal along the Potomac River from Georgetown to Cumberland can be found in a report made May 22, 1926, by Representative Andrew Stewart of Pennsylvania, Chairman of the Committee on Internal Affairs, from letters, maps, and papers written by General George Washington. From these papers the importance of improving the navigation on the Potomac River and its connection with western waters attracted the attention of the early colonists under Great Britain.

In 1754 Washington had carefully considered the difficulties and possibilities of building a canal along

the Potomac River. He succeeded in getting an act passed "to open the Potomac to make it navigable from tide-water to Will's Creek at Cumberland." Then the the Revolution broke and work was delayed; however, we find the idea revived in 1784 when Washington explored in person a route for a waterway up the Potomac and as far west as Fort Duquesne (now the site of Pittsburgh). It was Washington's plan to connect by a short portage the head waters of the Potomac with those of the Youghiogheny, giving cheap and easy communications with the western country.

Through Washington's efforts, a company called the Potomac Company was formed in 1784 by concurrent acts of the legislatures of Virginia and Maryland and stock was sold—500 shares at 100 pounds each. At the solicitation of Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and others, General Washington consented to accept the Presidency of the Potomac Company and held that office until he became President of the United States in 1789. Work began in August 1785. The detour canals around Great Falls are still in evidence on the Virginia side of the Potomac.

The idea of connecting the Potomac and Youghiogheny was before Congress and continued to gain support. Conventions were held in 1825 and 1826 with delegates from Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania present. The old Potomac Company surrendered its charter to a new organization in 1825, named the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal

Company to mark the connection of the two navigable waters. Money was appropriated by Congress for surveys. On September 5, 1824, engineers and officials were named: Captain McNeil, James Shriver, John McHenry, Andrew Stewart, Colonel Roberdeen, Major Albert Thomas Kennedy, and John Hoyer. John C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, traveled the Maryland State Road from Westernport and stayed at Ingram's Tavern. Plans were formed to cut a tunnel through the divide of Crab Tree Run to Green Glade Run and by locks lift and lower canal boats up and down the mountainside. Waters of Deep Creek would be impounded to make a lake over which the boats would pass and supply water for the locks.

Another route contemplated in 1826 was from Georgetown to Cumberland along the Potomac River into Pennsylvania by way of Will's Creek; a portage over the mountain to connect in some way with the Casselman River, then following it to Confluence where it flows into the Youghiogheny. Andrew Stewart, Congressman from Pennsylvania, became so much interested in the canal project that he had a survey made at his own expense. This route was considered as early as 1815. When the stone bridge over the Casselman River was built, a high curve was made in the arch to give space for the passing of canal boats.

After much discussion, a bill to incorporate the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company was passed by the House and Senate in May 1828 at the first session of the Twentieth

Congress. When ground was broken for the building of the canal, a great celebration was held in Georgetown. The president, John Quincy Adams, made a carefully prepared speech, reading from a manuscript and from his diary. General Mercer, President of the Canal Company, handed a spade to the President who moved the first shovel of earth. The canal project was on its way to open navigation to the west. After years of anticipation, work was begun. There was no need for speed for, since 1818, coal and other freight had been hauled to Cumberland by wagon drawn by four-horse teams and sent to eastern markets on keel boats of ten tons capacity. (*Ed. note: presumably, to locations on the Potomac as far as Great Falls.*) While the new waterway was under construction, a rival for transportation appeared on the scene. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad extended its tracks to the west and reached Cumberland in November 1842, eight years ahead of the canal. The necessity of a waterway to the west was overtaken by the new method of travel.

On October 10, 1850, the canal

was opened to Cumberland. A celebration was held and the following toast was offered by the Hon. William Cost Johnson, Director of the canal from 1847 until its completion, "To the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The former has happily reached its ebony harvest amid the coal fields of the Alleghenies. May the latter journey vigorously on westward until it rejoices in the golden plains of California."

The building of the canal from Georgetown to Cumberland extended over 22 years, from 1828 to 1850. The canal was operated successfully from 1850 until 1924 when it suspended business. Over its placid waters millions of tons of freight—coal, grain, hay, stone, and lumber—were carried. At one time the canal was owned by the B&O Railroad. It is now owned by the Federal Government, and has been opened as a waterway recreation park, in Georgetown, with excursions made on canal boats west for 22 miles. In Cumberland, the canal is being used in the interest of flood control and civic development.

## *Furnace Fund Donations*

- R. Hugh and Dolores Andrew
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- Lawrence and Marilyn Reichert
- J. Samuel Slicer
- Warren Whittaker
- Wayne Wilt



# *The Mountain Choir Festival*

*by Ariel Robinson*



**Felix Robinson directing a choral group in Garrett County.**

In the year 1054 C. E., Christian civilization split into the western sphere dominated by Rome, and the eastern sphere centered in Byzantium. Nearly 500 years later the Protestant Reformation further fragmented that civilization. In the ensuing years, a few people attempted to repair these ruptures by a variety of ways.

Oakland, Maryland, resident Felix G. Robinson (1898-1967) was such a man. Though educated in the Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, he developed an ecumenical approach to his ministry, and associated with an ever broadening circle of ecclesiastical friends among

Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox, and Jewish communities. His ecumenical interests ran towards the study of the many Christian liturgies developed after early experiences of the Church. Musical practices were of even greater interest to him. Both liturgy and music seemed central to Robinson's understanding of Christian religious life. He saw those two elements of communal worship as key to some sort of rapprochement for the differing faiths.

In 1934, he accepted a "call" to the pastorate of the Lutheran Church in Keyser, West Virginia, after nine years serving parishes in



**Lucille Robinson**

the New York City area. He felt it an opportunity to begin the Mountain Choir Festival in the Bashford Auditorium at Mountain Lake Park, Maryland, commonly known as "The Amphitheater". The Festival began modestly with more than a dozen choral groups competing on a summer Sunday afternoon, followed by a Choral Eucharist service sung by the combined choirs; both sessions open to the public. In succeeding years, the Festival grew in size and duration. First to a full weekend of events, then to a weeklong program including five days of liturgical choir school. Among the lecturers was Beckett Gibbs, the pre-eminent authority on Gregorian chant, who came from Britain to teach the Americans its proper usage.

He was on the faculty of Union Theological Seminary, New York City. For the fifth season, the Huss School of Music was added to festival offerings.

Henry Holden Huss was Dean of Piano Teachers at Steinway Hall, New York City, and Henrietta Huss, his wife, taught voice at the same institution. (They were god-parents of Muriel Robinson Franc, Oakland musician.)

Beginning with the third season, Columbia Broadcasting Co. aired the Festival as its featured musical program. NBC followed suit in subsequent years. The Mutual Broadcasting Co. also aired a Festival program in later years.

As the Festival grew, musical programs of a secular nature were included. Folk music of Appalachia was of interest to Felix, and several leading performers added their talents to affairs. By 1941, the Festival had become an all summer weekend series of events including a Band and Fife Festival, the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, the Baltimore and Ohio Men's Glee Club, and the exceptional dramatic soprano, Eleanor Steber of the Metropolitan Opera.

F. Melius Christiansen, Harvey Gaul and Henry H. Huss each composed sacred anthems dedicated to the Festival and those works were duly performed there. Many leading musicians and citizens lent their names as sponsors of the Festival. Most graciously to do so was Mrs. Theodore





**Bashford Amphitheater and ticket booth.**

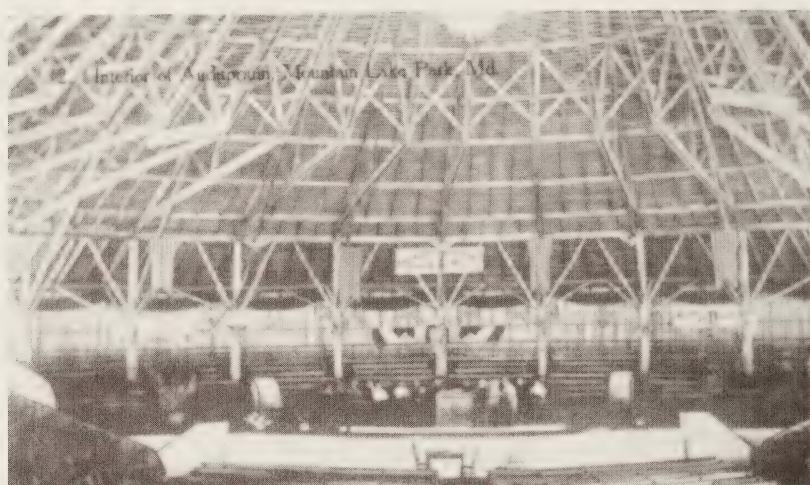
Roosevelt, Sr. The Festival was not held during World War II but was revived in 1946 and held in Arthurdale, West Virginia, where Robinson was pastor of the Community Church (1943-1949). The location for events was the high school gymnasium. The most memorable performance was of Felix Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah* under the direction of the composer's grand-nephew, Felix Robert Mendelssohn, second chair of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The Festival ended in 1948 and Robinson was back in Oakland, Maryland, in 1949, beginning another period of his remarkable life.

During his career as a choir director (he always directed the combined choirs at the festival), Robinson demanded and received more from the chorister than most believed they could produce. During his tenure as pastor of the Arthurdale Community Church, he organized a choir from

local high school students and a few adults. In a six-year period, this totally untrained group who had never sung before Robinson's arrival memorized more than 100 anthems and hymns. These folks had never heard of Mozart or Palestrina but soon were performing the best of sacred music in concert as well as on Sunday mornings at church.

Lucille Henry Robinson, wife of Felix G. Robinson, was an excellent musician. Her voice (lyric/coloratura) thrilled many a listener even though she suffered from stage fright and preferred to be a piano accompanist. In this capacity she greatly excelled, and, during the New York years was called upon to accompany well-known vocal and instrumental artists. A graduate of Fairmont "Normal" (as it was known) College in West Virginia at the age of 19, she became the first Supervisor of Public School Music in Gettysburg, Pa., during





**Inside of Bashford Amphitheater.**

Felix's Seminary years before their marriage. Her daughter, Muriel, says of her, "Although I studied further in New York City, rejecting an offer of a career at the Met through Lily Pons, teacher, I considered my mother to be my finest teacher."

Robinson had, in his college and seminary days, organized concerts for prominent American and European artists in the smaller cities of Pennsylvania for which service he obtained a fee so as to continue his studies. Impresarios at Carnegie Hall, New York City, hired him to do the same for their famous European artists' USA tours. He managed those tours successfully and was asked to join his employer's partnership. He declined, and returned to seminary studies. Shortly thereafter, his former employers formed Columbia Artists and Community Concerts, Inc. Such is life!

During his sojourns in New York

he became acquainted with many of the leading musicians there. He also spent two years on the faculty of the Westminster Choir School, Princeton, New Jersey. These contacts with the world of music allowed him to judge the choir contests and flesh out the programs offered to the public. The Festival gave an opportunity for choral groups in the surrounding territory to advance in competency, match their skills with others and learn from visiting artists and teachers. Perhaps the Garrett County economy advanced modestly from the Festival activity as well.

One of my sources of information at the Clarice Smith Center for Performing Arts, University of Maryland, informed me that no other event of this high caliber was in existence in the United States during the period when the Mountain Choir Festival was held in Garrett County, Maryland.

# *The Cold War . . . Forgotten?*

*by John A. Grant*

*Ed. Note: Your author was recently given a whole series of pamphlets published by the Office of Civil Defense in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The pamphlets spoke to a whole lot of memories of the "Cold War" which have probably been forgotten by many people.*

"Saber Ratling" is one of the international events that have put stress on countries and kingdoms since the dawn of history. To this end, international "saber rattling" reached a new high for the United States of America following the development of the atomic bomb and guided missiles. It meant that one nation could devastate another one with an atomic holocaust.

A period of intense worry and frantic preparation gripped the United States early in the 1960s following the "Cuban Missile Crisis." A Russian vessel was found to be carrying a set of guided missiles to Cuba, which had become allied with Soviet Russia. Fortright action by President Kennedy turned back the vessel on the high seas. It was the beginning of the "Cold War" with the United States and its allies pitted against the Soviet Union and its allies.

As a spin-off of the Cold War, the U.S. Department of Defense organized the Office of Civil Defense.

One of the primary purposes of this new office was to alert the citizens of the United States to the grave danger from radioactive dust as the fallout of an atomic explosion. Results from atomic tests conducted by the U.S. in the Pacific Ocean showed that fallout from explosions spread over 7,000 square miles of the Pacific Ocean.

One way for a citizen to prevent harm from the atomic fallout was to go into a "Fallout Shelter" built prior to a nuclear attack. The rationale for this advice was "in case of an emergency, it would be priceless." For a house with a basement, it was recommended that one be built in a basement.

The Office of Civil Defense developed literature for all kinds of shelter locations. In addition, it developed plans for warning the public of an atomic attack by a hostile government. Finally, after a few years, tensions between governments eased and the Cold War ended.

Just how many people built fallout shelters will never be known. Eventually many of them were dismantled and over a period of time were forgotten that they ever existed.

However, one strong feature of those days was the development of coordinated Civil Emergency techniques and action in the time of

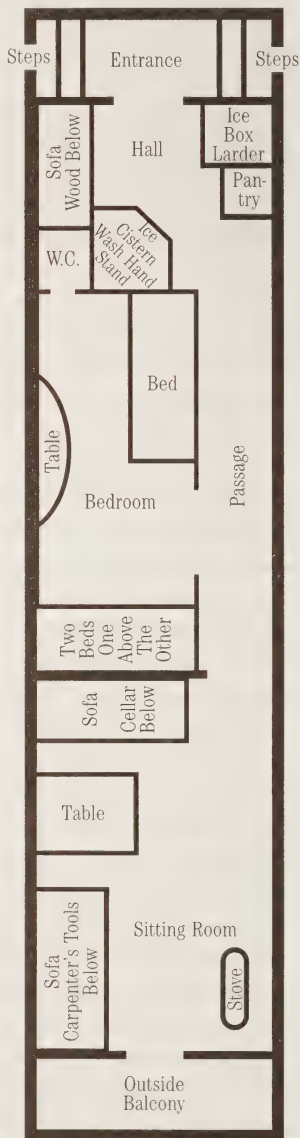
earthquakes, wind storms, fires, and floods. Certain radio channels have been set aside for various county, state, and Federal Government agencies to coordinate their activities with each other.

Has the Cold War been forgot-

ten? This is a question which dwells in realm of probably; however, one thing that has not been forgotten is our reaction and responsibility toward our fellow citizens in time of difficulties.

## *Did You Know...*

... that John W. Garrett, president of the B&O Railroad and for whom our county is named, loaned his private railroad car to his friend, President Lincoln, for the latter's journey to Gettysburg in November 1863 where the he delivered his famous address at the dedication of the national cemetery. According to others who traveled in the car, it had an entrance, a hall, a bedroom, a sitting room, and outside balcony with railings. The sofas were covered with a green Brussels carpet (small pattern) quilted like a mattress with green buttons and chairs covered with a corded woolen fabric. The bedroom births were much higher and wider than a ship's. It had 22 windows with Venetian blinds, looking glasses, and lamps. There was also a writing table covered with green baize and on it a large blotting-book, ink, pens, and three or four daily newspapers. John W. knew how to travel in comfort.





# Road Connecting Two Mountains

by John A. Grant



Looking eastward from Little Savage Mountain to Big Savage Mountain.

Back in the early 1700s, other than a pack horse trail, there wasn't a road connecting Big Savage Mountain and Little Savage Mountain. Then in the early 1750s, General Braddock built a road over the mountains to oust the French army at Fort Duquesne (later called Ft. Pitt) on the Ohio River. General Braddock's mission was a failure, but it opened the way for settlers to travel to the lands of the West, and Braddock's Road became the route followed by settlers during the late 1700s. Finally, in the early 1800s the U.S. Government sponsored the National Road to the Ohio River at Wheeling; it was the beginning of a road which later connected the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by roadway across the United States.

For almost a century and a half, the National Road across Garrett

County (later designated as U.S. 40) was a twisting highway with two mountains to cross immediately west of Frostburg, Maryland: Big Savage Mountain and Little Savage Mountain. Then, the Maryland State Roads Commission, with help from the Federal Government, came up with the bold plan of connecting the two mountains by a highway crossing a high "fill" of earth between the two and deep cuts in the top of the both mountains to supply the necessary rock and dirt needed to build the high "fill"; it was to be a part of a new super highway system across this area of Maryland.

Work was finally begun on the new highway in the mid '60s. It was to be called Interstate #48 but the number was later changed Interstate #68.



**Looking west at part of deep cut in the top of Big Savage Mountain.**

Of course, the new highway through the area had to take into account existing county roads that would be cut off through the countryside as it went east and west. On the east side of Big Savage Mountain the new road swung southward for a less steep grade and bridges gave existing roads a route over or under the new highway. The massive fill on the west side of Big Savage Mountain only crossed one county road that existed there. The old county road was turned

slightly uphill and crossed under the new highway, with side roads connecting it to the eastbound or westbound lanes of the new highway. (Further west small county roads were joined together and crossed over or under the new highway as a single road.)

And so the new Interstate Highway finally connected the two mountains to each other with a single road having no sharp curves and no steep grades.



**Looking northwest at long earthfill between the two mountains.**



# *Bible School Picnic*

*by John A. Grant*



**Morning sessions of Bible School classes met in the Elementary School Building.**

One of the features of the Daily Vacation Bible School held for one or two weeks in the summer time was the Bible School picnic; it was held on the last day of the school.

The School itself was conducted in the Oakland Elementary School, located on Center Street. (The school building is now the headquarters of Community Action.) It was usually held during the last week of June and Pastors of most of the Oakland churches acted as teachers.

Many times, during the middle

1930s, the picnic itself was held at the Pines, an amusement park eight miles west of Oakland at Corinth, W.Va. The one which I remember best was held there in 1934 and the students rode to the picnic in Mr. Cecil Ramsey's school bus. The Pines had a large playground with swings, seesaws, and sliding boards; there was also a large indoor skating rink.

Looking back, the picnic was held on one of those beautiful days that come in the month of June when the weather is warm, but not too





**Nothing is left of the amusement park at the Pines.**

hot. A group of us boys headed for the swings and sliding boards of the park, where we spent the first part of the afternoon.

Then we heard music coming from the skating rink and the low rumble of wheels as the number of skaters increased. By that time we were starting to get thirsty so we headed for the skating rink to get a bottle of "pop." I suppose the attrac-

tion of seeing other children skating around the rink in time to the music made it impossible to resist the lure to go skating. "Pop" was forgotten and we spent the rest of the afternoon at the roller rink.

The Pines amusement park is gone now; a blank space in a group of houses is the only indication that it was ever there. But memories of that wonderful June afternoon linger.

## *Donations*

- Daniel Offutt III for Display Case
- Virginia Lawton
- Debbie Geiger
- Offutt and Joan Johnson
- Paul and Elaine Hoyer
- T. Grant and Jackie Callery
- MD Assn. of History Museums
- Constance Beachy
- Donald and Carol Moss
- Brian and Crystal Boal
- Genie Ragan

# *Last Bridge Standing*

*by John A. Grant*



**The last bridge on the original 1911 - 1916 project that is still standing.**

There it is, deep in the woods, 600 ft. west of U.S. 219, with its concrete arch still spanning the Little Bear Creek. Located about 3 miles south of Accident, it is "the last Bridge Standing" of four that were built on the old State Road between Keyser's Ridge and the W.Va. State Line south of Red House. The four concrete structures were over Bear Creek, Little Bear Creek, Little Youghiogheny River, and Cherry Creek.

The first north/south "modern State Road" was built in Garrett County between 1911 and 1916, and featured a number of small concrete culverts, concrete highway pavement and the concrete arch bridges. Many steep hills were made easier to ascend because alignment of the new

highway approached them from a different angle. It was a new era of road building in Garrett County where there were still many dirt roads with wooden bridges and stone culverts.

It is to be remembered that very slowly a new vehicle called the automobile was "beginning to appear on the county roads. In the beginning of the 1900s there were very few automobiles in the county; majority of travel and transportation of products was by horse drawn vehicles. Gradually, trucks and automobiles began to appear; farmers began using tractors to replace work horses on the farms and trucks to replace the wagons they pulled.

Other counties in the State of Maryland were rebuilding their road





**Little Bear Creek, below the “last bridge.”**

systems to accommodate the trucks and passenger cars becoming more and more in use throughout their county. Soon, it became evident that better roads and bridges were needed in Garrett County for the same reason.

Certain features of the existing Garrett County roads had to be re-designed to accommodate the use of cars and trucks; among them, was the need for a good north/south road running through the length of the county. (The National Road (now U.S. 40) already took care of a large amount of east/west traffic in the northern part of the county.)

To begin with, certain features of the existing roads had to be re-designed and rebuilt; among them was the need for good bridges to cross some of the streams traversed by north/south traffic of the county. Notable among the needs was space beneath the bridges of the county to take care of river and stream flooding during certain times of the year. Four

streams were classed as unusual in this respect: Bear Creek, Little Bear Creek, Little Youghiogheny River, and Cherry Creek. And so, arch bridges were built to carry the roadway traffic over these streams year-round.

Building these bridges was something very unusual for Garrett County road work. They were constructed according to good plans and existed for thirty years.

Following the second World War, they were replaced, one by one. The only one surviving is in the area of Little Bear Creek. The new location of the highway was moved eastward, and the old bridge left standing in the woods, 600 feet downstream from the new highway.

And so it remains there today, deep in the woods, completely unseen by travelers moving north and south on the new road. However, for anyone seeking it, the old bridge is a statue to the workmanship and design of men building better roads in Garrett County.

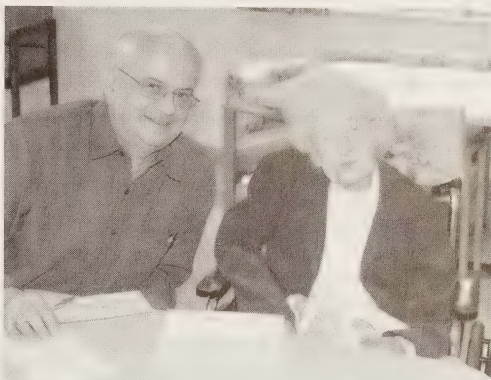


## *Descendant of Garrett County Pioneer Family Votes at Age 107*

Elva Bray Tasker, a life-long resident of the Walnut Bottom/Mt. Zion area of Garrett County, exercised her "Right to Vote" in the 2008 Maryland Presidential primary at age 107. Elva related to Bob Boal of the Garrett County Board of Elections and to John McEwen of *The Republican* that she had voted in the 1920 Presidential election — The first national election after the passage of the Women's Suffrage Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Elva is a direct descendant of Michael Paugh, who was one of the first settlers in the Walnut Bottom area of Backbone Mountain (near Swanton) in the Revolutionary War era. The Michael Paugh family is shown as being "Homesteaders" at Walnut Bottom on Deakin's first survey for the pending construction of the Northwestern Turnpike portion from Westernport through what is now Garrett County in the late 1700s.

Born at Walnut Bottom on April 12, 1900, Elva was a daughter of the "Squire Bray" family and has lived her entire life on the family "home place." Throughout her life, she served the churches of Mt. Zion and Walnut Bottom, being Treasurer of the Wal-



**Elva Bray Tasker prepares to vote as Bob Boal looks on.**

nut Bottom Church until at least age 105. She was also a member of the Garrett County Historical Society. In her nineties, she was still assisting Social Services by staying with elderly and incapacitated patients.

Until her stroke at age 106, Elva could be seen working in the large vegetable garden in her backyard wearing her trademark, wide-brimmed straw hat. She faithfully gave her home-canned fruits and vegetables to friends and neighbors who dropped by to visit. Although Elva now resides at the Oakland Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, her mind remains sharp and she occasionally returns to the Walnut Bottom "Home place" for special events — such as New Year's Eve 2007 for the traditional firing of the family shotgun!

*Happy 108th Birthday, Elva—April 12, 2008!*

# Did You Know...

... that in addition to being a hunter and statesman, Meshach Browning was a poet. He wrote this poem when Garrett County was still part of Allegany County. The museum

has no information on the campaign of 1855 and would appreciate hearing from any readers who do. Also, can anyone identify the persons named in the poem?

## "Rouse Ye Democrats"

by Meshach Browning for the campaign of 1855

*Come all you Allegany Democrats,  
Of Country and of town:  
Come dress your selves like  
gentlemen,  
Of honor and renown.  
For you have proved your claim  
To the honorable name  
Of Jackson's Democracy.  
When foul and fierce prescription  
Was staring you in the face,  
You took a bold position  
And firmly held your place.  
While enemies were gathering round,  
In search of midnight sprees,  
They were fully bent,  
With a fine intent,  
To destroy your liberties.  
They raised a congregation  
Saying "Something must be done,  
Down at the old plantation  
Nearby the old Sang Run."  
Both foul and fair were gathered there  
To make a great parade:  
There were Sam and Joe, and book (?)  
you know,  
And the hero from Oakland Glade.  
  
Then a message was sent out quick  
That a speech would there be made,  
Before the friends of the midnight  
clique,  
By the hero from Oakland Glade*

*But Semmes friends all stood firm,  
And not the least dismayed,  
For they had no cares, neither love of  
fears,  
For the hero from Oakland Glade.  
Thanks to kind providence  
That smiled upon our side  
We defeated all their schemes,  
  
And humbled Oakland pride.  
Hurrah for Semmes and Kildow,  
Hurrah for Doctor Frey;  
Hurrah for F.B. Tower,  
Likewise for J.M. Schley;  
Hurrah for Moses Rawlings,  
Tom White and Joseph Wicks:  
With Semmes and Schley united,  
We'll catch them in their tricks.  
Stand back you midnight prowlers  
Your labor is in vain.  
To know that you are beaten  
To every man is plain.  
And you your selves are well aware  
That you were beaten fair,  
And no right to complain,  
And the something we have lately  
done  
Next fall we'll do again  
Now my friends, I will retire  
And bid you all good bye:  
Your friendships still I do desire  
And hope you won't deny.*

# Museum Visitors

Edith Brock, the Historical Society's Assistant Secretary, has compiled a list of the appreciative comments in the Visitors Register. They include:

Three visitors from Baltimore in one day left the following messages:

*"Awesome"*

*"Outstanding"*

*"We were really impressed."*

A visitor from Pennsylvania said,

*"A great collection thoughtfully displayed,"*

and another Pennsylvanian commented,

*"Wonderful and interesting museum. Very informative and decorated nicely."*

A Texan wrote, *"loving this place."*

A visitor from Silver Spring said, *"Always love to visit and see what's new."*

A visitor from Ontario, Canada, said, *"A treasure."*

And it was exciting to see this comment by a visitor from London, England:  
*"We loved it. Positively brilliant!"*

And a visitor from California wrote, *"Best local museum I've ever visited."*

But it was also a pleasure for staff and volunteers to see these comments by people in Oakland:

*"A gem of a place!"*

*"Beautiful, peaceful, friendly place—Fun!"*

*"Fantastic! It's Great!"*

A guest from Chevy Chase summed it up with, *"What a lovely surprise to find this museum—we'll be back."*

Visitors from 38 states and

Washington, DC

Foreign Countries:

Stuttgart and Munich, Germany

Australia

Calcutta, India

Beijing, China

Bangladesh

London, Maidenhead, and

Nottingham, England

Dublin, Ireland

France

Ukraine

Philippines

Taiwan

Czech Republic

Bogotá, Columbia

Canada

Norway

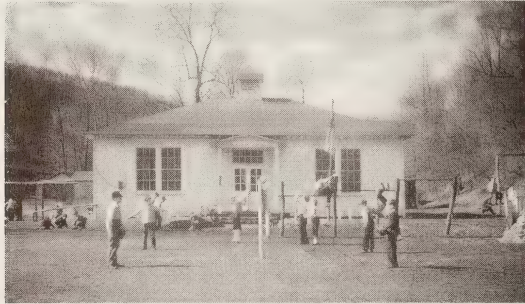
Total number of visitors: January 1 - December 31, 2007—6,205



# Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear

by Alice Eary and Jean Grose

*Let's Play Trivia*



(Courtesy of the Board of Education)

1. The school in the picture is what Garrett County school?
2. Was "Backwoods" ever the official name of a Garrett County School?



White Rock School (1918-19). Picture is courtesy of Bill Slagle.

3. Why do the students in the front row have their feet covered?

4. What is the total number of documented schools which existed in Garrett County prior to 1950?
5. What school had the first hot lunch program where the food was actually prepared at school?



(Sketch by Irmgard Koscielniak.)

6. What school was conducted in the most different locations?
7. Where was the first school which was built specifically for school use?
8. What two Garrett County schools have been preserved in Spruce Village at Penn Alps?
9. What was the southern-most early school of Garrett County?
10. What was the official name of "Bumblebee" School?
11. Where was Red Gate School?
12. Can you identify this lifetime teacher? (*Photo is courtesy of Ethel Buckel.*)

1933-34 Bowser  
 1931-32 and 1939-50 Casselman  
 1934-35 Chestnut Grove  
 1935-37 and 1954-58 Bittinger  
 1938-39 Laughlin  
 1951-52 New Germany  
 1953-54 and 1957-62 North Glade  
 1962-71 Swanton  
 1971-74 Crellin



13. Is Orthography still taught in public schools? What is it?
14. What was the early name for the Board of Education?
15. Other than for school purposes, how were school buildings used?

(Answers on next page)

### *ANSWERS to Trivia Questions:*

1. In the picture is Shallmar School. In 1904 Dodson served the children in the area. In 1918 it became Dodson-Shallmar, and in 1930 Shallmar School in the picture was built.
2. As early as 1869 Backwoods School existed in District 12 about three miles from Route 495 on the south side of Fairview Road in an area known as Pea Patch Lane. In 1912 the community officially changed its name to Fairview. Fairview School closed in 1951.
3. The White Rock School children made bells "to cover their shabby shoes." (Students names are listed with the picture in *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear*.)
4. More than 215 official school names are documented in *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear*. (Any number between 200 and 225 is an acceptable answer.)
5. Fairsweep was the first school to prepare hot school lunches. Some of the school girls prepared and served the meals.
6. Dry Run School was conducted in "Green Spot" from 1884-1905; Harrison House, 1906-09; Gaster House, 1911-13; Wolfe House 1913-18; Dry Run, 1918-31 and 1936-38. Students attended Black Hawk School during the years 1931-36.
7. The earliest documented building constructed specifically for school purposes in what is now Garrett County was a log school along the National Road east of Grantsville around 1817.
8. Compton School and Bear Hill School have been preserved in Spruce Village.
9. Fairfax School was located near the Fairfax Stone. It existed from the 1870s through 1889. Little is known about the school, but its trustees were George L. Mosset, William Arnold, and M. Kemmey.
10. Prettyman School was located on Bumble Bee Road, thus the name.
11. At one time Red Gate was the name of Gortner area.
12. Mr. Ralph Buckel was a lifetime teacher in Garrett County. The picture is from a 1931-32 photo of Casselman School children. (Courtesy of Ethel Buckel.)
13. Orthography is taught today as spelling.
14. Until 1916 the Board of Education was the Board of School Commissioners.
15. School buildings were used for church activities, community meetings and social gatherings.



# Accessions

*November 20, 2007, through February 16, 2008*

- Ray Teets Agency calendar insurance ad, 1977 Garrett county Bicentennial calendar ..... *gifts from Bob Ault*
- Two Korean War Navy pictures ..... *gifts from Kenneth Gearhart*
- 1930 Aircraft Yearbook, 1933 Aircraft Yearbook and the 1967 Aerospace Yearbook ..... *gifts from Bob Railey*
- WWII Woman's Navy uniform, two hats, two ribbons, medal, two name tags, patch picture and information—belonged to Ardis Nutter..... *gifts from Tom and Dorothee Bittinger*
- Lady's mannequin ..... *gift from Scott and Helen Atwill*
- Grand Army of the Republic encampment badges, dated 1886-1906, GAR tie pin, 1884 watch fob, from the dedication of the Statue of Liberty that belonged to Garrett County Civil War soldier, Samuel Falkner, Potomac Home Brigade, given in memory of Landon Boal, grandson of Bob and Leanna Boal ..... *gifts from Bob Boal and Leanna Boal*
- Potomac Valley, Centennial Issue, B&O meat platter, photocopied Deer Park Hotel menu..... *gifts from Robert Dvorak*
- 1944 WWII Maryland U.S. Army blanket.....*gift from Robert L. Hess and William Vogt*
- Two antique voting ballot bags ..... *gifts from Steve Fratz*
- Five small railroad spikes, piece of rail, found in the old tram road, near Herrington Manor ..... *gifts from Kevin Maffett*
- Two Garrett National car banks.....*gifts from the Nearly New Shop*
- 1940 telephone book..... *gift from Lorry and Gall Suter*
- WWII letter to Luther Schmidt from Tommie Foster, two envelopes..... *gifts from Everett B. DeBerry*
- 1899 Garrett County Bank check..... *gift from Mark Marucci*

# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$120 per year, single member  
or  
joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only  
one copy of each of the four issues. All member-  
ships are on a yearly basis, from July 1 through  
June 30.

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550

**Coming Soon**

# Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear

by

Alice Eary and Jean Grose

- 690 text pages
- 55 page (4 column) index
- 21 pages documented notes
- 26 sketches
- 341 pictures
- 2300 surnames

Deadline for Pre-Sales orders is April 1, 2008. After that time the price will be \$38.00 plus tax.



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\_\_\_\_\_ Book(s) @ \$33.00 reduced price      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Plus 1.98 Sales Tax      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.50 per book (Shipping/handling)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total (\$40.48) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to:

**Garrett County Historical Society Museum**

and mail with this form to:

Garrett County Historical Society Museum, Schools of Yesteryear,  
 107 South Second Street, Oakland, Maryland 21550.

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**Mtn. Lake Park School**

# THE Glades ★ Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

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VOL. 11, NO. 10

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

JUNE 2008



**GARRETT COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE  
CELEBRATES  
100 YEARS**

See story page 347

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *Courthouse To Celebrate 100 Years Existence*

*by John A. Grant*



**Laying the corner stone, October 1907.**

In December 2008, the Garrett County Courthouse will celebrate 100 years of existence on Third Street in Oakland. It is the third building for conducting County business since Garrett County was created in 1872.

For the first seven or eight years that Garrett County existed, Court was held and County business was

conducted at the Glades Hotel. This was the "second" Glades Hotel; it was located in the area which is now the Oakland parking lot beside the B&O Railroad and across the tracks from the station building. Eventually, the sitting Judge ordered that Garrett County build a proper building to act as its Courthouse. A site was selected at the corner of Green and Fourth



To collect on a wager, an automobile salesman drove one of his cars up the Courthouse steps in 1916.



Aerial view of the courthouse in 1949. The county jail—the fortress-like structure—and the sheriff's residence next to it are in the rear on Fourth Street. The cake for the county's 100th birthday celebration is being built in the extreme lower left corner of the photo.



**County jail and sheriff's residence on Fourth Street.**

Streets in Oakland; years later, this old Courthouse building became Oakland High School.

The present Garrett County Courthouse was dedicated in December, 1908. Since that date two very large additions have been made to the original building. Studies were started on the additions in the early 1970s; after much planning a decision was made to add more rooms to the existing building in the front and the rear. Construction was begun in 1977 with the work being done in phases.

An addition to the front of the building was to house the Sheriff's Office and County Jail; when it was completed the old sheriff's office and jail were torn down and work was begun on new the county office building to the rear of the existing Courthouse. Since that time, more space has been needed and during the past few years various offices have been moved to other locations in and

around Oakland.

Prior to the addition of the Sheriff's Office and Jail to the Courthouse, there were a series of steps that went up from Third Street to the front door of the building. Back in 1908 when the building was completed, a wall was built along Third Street with a semicircular reset for the beginning of the steps. This reset offered a place for a town band concert, and other forms of "street" activities when something special was going on in Oakland. An unusual event took place about 1916 when an automobile salesman, on a sale's wager, drove up the steps to the front door of the Courthouse.

The lawn between Third Street and the front door once had a cannon which was put there during the late 1920s. Years later, it was removed and in the following years was replaced by a smaller anti-aircraft gun. (It has since been removed to the lawn of the American Legion building near



County Court House    Oakland, Maryland

**A view of the Courthouse as its architects originally intended.**

the Hospital.)

During the Oakland Centennial celebration in 1949, a large Centennial birthday cake was built on the concrete pad where the cannons had once been located. The cake was quite an undertaking; it took three weeks to complete using 700 feet of lumber, 250 feet of chicken wire fence, 210 feet of electric wire, a ton of old newspapers (for papier-mache), and 21 gallons of paint. When it was completed, the cake stood over twelve feet high and was topped with the Centennial number, "100."

#### FORMER COURTHOUSE

The original Garrett County Courthouse was located on Fourth Street, one block north of the present one. After the new Courthouse was completed in 1908, the old one

first served as Oakland High School, and later as the Garrett County Board of Education offices. Oakland High School was begun in the Oakland Elementary School building on Center Street in Oakland. The curriculum was inaugurated in 1901 with twenty-four students. The enrollment increased each year, and when the new Courthouse was completed in 1908, it was decided to move the high school classes to the old Courthouse building. The move was made in 1910.

The roof of the old Courthouse building was blown off by a windstorm in March 1916, and high school classes were moved back to the Center Street school. Beginning in the Fall, high school classes were held in the K of P building on Third Street across from the new Courthouse. A



The 1970s-era sheriff's office and jail now obscure the once grand view of the Courthouse. It is the strong desire of many that this offensive, bunker-like structure, which destroys the exquisite beauty of one the county's treasures, will be removed one day soon.



Addition to the rear of the Courthouse.



**Vacant place where the Courthouse of 1880 used to stand.**

six-classroom addition was made to the damaged high school building and classes resumed there in September 1919. When the new Southern High School was completed in 1952, the Garrett County Board of Education took over use of the old Oakland High School building and stayed there until

it moved to its present location on Second Street in Oakland.

Today, the original Courthouse building as Oakland High School has been torn down; the area where it once stood has been graded smooth and nothing but green grass marks the place where it once existed.

## *Memorials*

**Mary V. Bolden Murry**  
Offutt and Joan Johnson  
Nancy Helbig

**Rev. Gordon Sperry**  
Nancy Helbig  
DeCorsey Bolden

## *In Honor Of:*

**Mary V. Jones**  
Nancy Helbig  
Margaret Germain



# *Naylor Building Difficulties*

*by John A. Grant*



**Naylor Building before the 1912 storm.**

On July 12, 1912, a sudden summer storm ripped the roof from the Naylor Building at the corner of Liberty Street and First Street in Oakland. It was a freak wind storm that did the damage. "Old timers" recalled that two blocks away, other than some leaves being blown off trees, no damage occurred anywhere in town. At that time it was a three story building, but Mr. A.D. Naylor decided to make it into a two story building and tore down the remaining bricks and flooring for the third floor

and replaced the roof to make it a two story building. And so it remained, seemingly a good solid building for 96 years.

Then on Sunday morning, February 17, 2008, seemingly without any cause, bricks and windows fell out of the second story in the front of the building on Liberty Street, covering the sidewalk and part of the street. On the way down, cascading bricks also snagged electric wires and pulled them off the electric pole across the street. What caused the sudden col-



The 1912 storm took off the third floor and part of the second.



John McEwen, *The Republican Newspaper* photographer, snapped this photo just as the wall came tumbling down.

lapse of the building? There were probably a multitude of causes: old structural damage hidden from the storm in 1912 that remained hidden for almost a century, vibration from the railroad, improper repairs from

1912? No one has been able to pinpoint the exact cause to date; perhaps they never will.

#### RECOLLECTIONS

I had known about the 1912 storm and damage to the building



**Liberty Street was littered with bricks.**

from the time I was a child. Long before I was born, my father took photographs of the building shortly after the event happened in 1912. They showed parts of the unroofed material and bricks in the yard behind the building; years later he showed me scars on the building where bricks that had been dislodged were replaced with others.

I used to marvel at the damage which could be inflicted on one building without other buildings in town also being damaged. This bit of awe was reinforced by the paper napkins on the front porch of the Scott Jones house which used to be across the street from the present Ruth Enlow Library building on Second Street; only about two blocks away from the Naylor building—the paper napkins had not been blown away.

#### RESEARCH

Then came the collapse of brickwork on February 12, 2008, and dig-

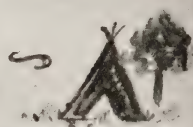
ging into *The Republican* Newspaper files at the Library to find out what happened in Oakland back in 1912. To my very great surprise I found that the damage to the Naylor building was part of a terrific, wide-spread storm that had hit Garrett County that week. It had downed hundreds of trees in the Oakland – Mtn. Lake area and moved northward through the county, damaging trees and buildings all the way to the Friendsville area. Not only that, but the wind storm was followed by heavy rainstorms during the following days that caused flooding of many small streams and flood damage to many places that had just been hit by the windstorm.

And so, if a person looks at the present damage to the building in Oakland and debris lying on the sidewalk he may wonder just what really happened to the building back in 1912 when the roof and third story were blown off.



# Camping at Minnetoska/Whitethorn

## CAMPING



### AT

# W

## MINNETOSKA !

## WHITETHORN

### 1935

### 1936

### 1937

#### Title page of Miss Davenport's scrapbook.

*Editor's note: Over 70 years ago, Doris Davenport, a young teenager from Baltimore, spent three very memorable summers at Camp Minnetoska. (See the September 2007 issue of the Glades Star for information on Minnetoska and Whitethorn.) She recorded her experiences during those summers of 1935, '36, and '37 in a scrapbook that is also filled with snapshots, menus, dance cards and other memorabilia from the*

*camp that turned up recently in the museum's archives. The scrapbook is the gift of Mrs. Lynn Mohr, who acquired it at a yard sale in Baltimore and is available for viewing at the museum. Miss Davenport's writings and other items from the scrapbook follow (The spelling is hers).*

1935

"In July, 1935, I entered into an entirely new sort of life - that of a



Bird's-eye view of camp.



Miss Davenport at the door of her cabin.



Camp Minnetoska - Camp Whitethorn  
Farewell Banquet  
August 25, 1935  
Hostmaster Mr. Donald Smith

Tomato Juice Cocktail  
Fried Chicken Canned Sweet Potatoes  
Pears  
Waldorf Salad  
Rolls  
Fruit Sherbet Chocolate Cake  
Red Tea  
Mints Mints

Menu from fairwell banquet, August 1935.





Campers at Whitethorn, 1935.



Campers at Minnetoska, 1935.

**BALTIMORE & OHIO**  
**Tours**

Name Miss Doris Davenport

Hotel Hutton Md  
R-1359

From Doris Davenport  
Camp Minnetoska  
Hiden Md


TO Doris Davenport  
Baltimore Md

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1936

Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Pieces \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_



### Miss Davenport's baggage claim checks to and from camp.

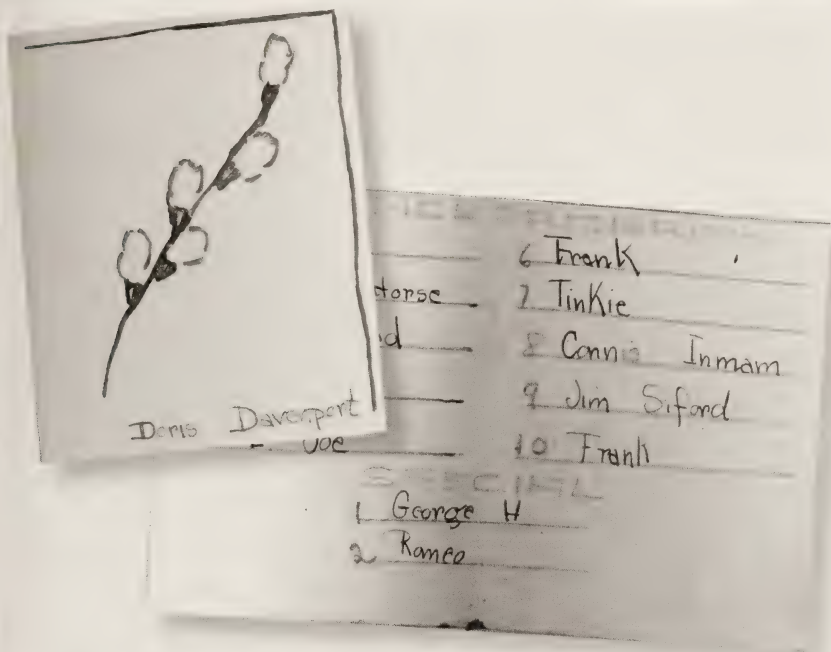
camper. When I arrived at Minnetoska I was as "green" and "renderfoot" as they come but it didn't take long to make friends and I instantly loved camp and camp life. Wholeheartedly and enthusiastically I engaged in learning and improving all I possibly could. Starting with no knowledge whatsoever I learned to really swim (that is ability to take care of myself in the water); to play tennis (knowledge of scoring, serving, and the main strokes); to ride horseback (mounting - dismounting - posting - cantering - to a degree and to handle a horse); to row by myself and with others; and to play various games - baseball, deck tennis, volleyball, nu-come, etc."

"Although I was artistic, I knew

nothing about handicraft - which I soon learned and became quite able. At the Campfire of Awards at the end of summer I received a bracelet as a token of Next-to Best Camper and a placquet for the most improvement in tennis. I must not omit the fact that I gained a good deal of weight and acquired a resistance against my usual winter illness."

1936

"Once again, in 1936, I was back at camp, feeling as though I had never been away. Of course there were many, many new campers and the majority of the counselors were new. Everyone was grand, both boys and girls and we had a grand time together. This year we had Indian Woodcraft Councils



**Miss Devenport's dance program from one of the co-ed activities allowed at the camps.**

carried on in Indian fashion. Every camper loved this and it was one of the most impressive ceremonies in which I have partaken. It seemed that we were fated to have misfortunes for an epidemic of "conjunctivitis" (pink eye to you) overtook three of the girls (I was one of the victims) and four of the boys. I mustn't leave out the "Alpha Canna Take Its" and the "Alpha Gonna Spill Its" organized during a rage of upset tummies throughout both camps. And that wasn't all - several had the mumps - not me!! All summer I strived to improve in every activity - swimming - tennis - riding - rowing and all that goes with it. To my very great pleasure and indeed great surprise, at the end of camp I was awarded a beautiful gold Indian

head metal as token of Best Camper. This is one of my proudest possessions and an award which I hope I justly deserved."

1937

"My third year at camp I felt like a real trooper. During the entire summer I helped out in Arts and Crafts and I often took "duty" at rest hour and at night to help the counselors out. This year I learn archery and badminton and after much trouble and practice I learned to dive (even from a board). To my great surprise and delight, I was awarded a medal for improvement and achievement in swimming. I must admit that I received much experience which I hope will benefit me."



# *A Presidential Honeymoon*



**President and Mrs. Cleveland.**

Early in June 122 years ago, President Grover Cleveland and his young bride, Frances Folsom, daughter of the President's former law partner, came to Deer Park for their honeymoon after a White House wedding. They traveled in the private railroad car of Robert Garrett, President of the B&O Railroad—perhaps the same car that Robert's father, John, then president of the railroad, had loaned to President Lincoln for the latter's trip to Gettysburg just 24 years earlier (*Glades Star* March 2008). The Clevelands stayed in the cottage of Senator Henry G. Davis

of West Virginia, a close friend of the President.

The happy couple arrived at the Deer Park Hotel siding early on the morning of June 3, according to the June 1966 issue of the *Glades Star*, where they were welcomed by Michael A. Garrett, Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings of the Hotel. They were then driven in Senator Davis' finest carriage, drawn by a matched team of coach horses to the Davis cottage, one of the largest and best of the cottages added some two years previously to the hotel's attractions.



**President Cleveland's cottage, now privately owned and recently restored.**

The article in the *Glades Star* went on to say that the next morning the President and Mrs. Cleveland were out early walking in the woods near their cottage. The bride wore a light morning dress, with a bunch of wild flowers at her waist. After enjoying the cool, mountain air for half an hour they returned to the cottage where breakfast was served. Half an hour later the President appeared on the piazza smoking a cigar. He read a newspaper and then, with his bride, strolled down to the rustic bridge below the cottage where the Maryland constabulary had their headquarters.

A few villagers were there and, as

the President was in a talkative mood, they picked up courage enough to respond intelligently to his inquiries about the early history of the region. One of the oldest hunters in this part of the state—Richard T. Browning, State Senator from Garrett County, who came to town expressly to see the President—gave sketches of the founding of Deer Park and the prominent personages of the area. The President exhibited a curious interest in these reminiscences of days past. Lighting a fresh cigar, he took a seat on one of the rustic benches beside his wife and, as the shadows shortened, relaxed far from the concerns of office and listened.

# *“Mountaineer Red Coats” Jr. Drum and Bugle Corps*

*by John A. Grant*

There is probably some particular reason for the upsurge in the number of drum and bugle corps in the late 1920s and early 1930s. A majority of them were associated with national American Legion Posts and V.F.W. Posts. Then, there were junior organizations of drum and bugle corps, with many of the members

being sons of those veterans.

In Oakland, Maryland, it was members of Proctor Kildow American Legion Post who organized a drum and bugle corps during the late 1920s. Then, a “junior” drum and bugle corps was organized in Oakland in 1931, and all the boys who were members had to be at least eight years



Mountaineer Red Coats, Oakland's Junior Drum and Bugle Corps forms up for a g



old. Needless to say, many of them were sons of the Legion group; the first photograph of the group shows that there were at least 32 boys in the organization. Mr. Byron Bessie was the director and teacher of the boys' group; his son Byron Jr. was only seven years old, but he was Drum Major for the band.

During the Winter of 1932 the group practiced in the basement of Mr. Bessie's house on Second Street; when Spring came, the group moved to his garage for music practice and to the upper part of Second Street for marching practice. Very gradually, the ranks of the marching group became better organized and the

tunes sounded more like drum and bugle corps tunes were supposed to. At first there were three major tunes which the group played well; "You're In The Army Now," "Legion Drummer," and "Semper Fidelis." The first parade for the group was on Memorial Day of 1931.

As often happens in the Spring, it was not a good day for a parade; the temperature was low and a cold wind was blowing. The wind came in gusts with such force that the marchers had to lean forward to maintain proper ranks. Bernard Gonder Jr. took motion pictures of the group with his movie camera as they marched past the intersection of Liberty Street and



1 in front of what is now the Oak and Apple B & B on Second Street.



**Upper Second Street was the drum corps' marching area.**

Second Street in Oakland. A couple of weeks later, Mr. Bessie showed the film to the band; we were astounded to see how out-of-line the ranks were when the wind was blowing so hard. As time went along the group increased its marching ability until it looked reasonably "sharp."

Uniform jackets for the group arrived early in the summer. They were suit type jackets with gold buttons and colored bright red. The jackets immediately gave a whole different appearance to the drum and bugle corps and brought about a change in its name. From that time onward, the group adopted the name "Mountaineer Red Coats."

As I recall we marched in parades in Oakland, Elkins, Romney, and Grantsville. Our final parade that year was to the Oakland Cemetery for Armistice Day activities. Unlike the first parade for the group on Memorial Day, the weather was good and the group marched like a well-disciplined

organization.

At the beginning of the next year of parades (1932), the first parade for the group was in Winchester, Va., at the annual Apple Blossom Festival. For the members of the Mountaineer Red Coats it was a wonderful experience. Our group was the only junior drum and bugle corps in the parade, but there were 18 or 20 adult drum corps in it; one or two of them came from as far away as Washington and Baltimore. Needless to say, it was one of the largest parades in which we ever marched. I somehow have it in my mind that Admiral Richard E. Byrd had returned from one of his adventurous Arctic trips and was Honored Guest for that particular parade. As the summer progressed, the group marched in parades throughout the tri-state area.

During Oakland's annual Labor Day Picnic an unusual thing took place. The operator of the Ferris Wheel on the picnic grounds insisted



**When Spring 1931 came, the members started to practice in the garage.**

that the whole corps take a free ride. The entire band got on with their instruments, and started to play as the wheel turned round and round. I'm not sure how it sounded, but it probably didn't make much difference anyhow; people could only hear one or two seats full as the wheel came around in their direction; the rest of the instruments were too far up in the air.

During the following winter, Mr.

Bessie moved from Oakland and took a position with a firm in Philadelphia; without his leadership the drum corps began to fall apart. Some of the older boys held the group together through the winter and the next summer, but the only parades it marched in were ones in Oakland. As I recall, the final gathering of the Mountaineer Red Coats was for the Halloween Parade in Oakland in 1933; after that parade it ceased to exist.

## *Donations*

Rotary Club of Oakland  
Ihor and Sandra Zakaluzny  
Jr. Woman's Civic Club  
Wayne and Judy Wilt

## *Donations for B&O Museum Membership*

Mary V. Jones  
Bob and Gretchen Shaffer



# Hutton School

*Alice Eary and Jean Grose*



**Hutton School, May 1920.**

*Editor's Note: Alice Eary's book, Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear, will go on sale soon at the museum. This story of the Hutton School is a preview:*

What do Kindness, Hutton, Ottawa, Hutton Switch have in common? Each was at one time the name of the Hutton community, located near the West Virginia border, two miles northwest of Crellin. A tanning company, which began in 1893, as well as the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad both played an important part in the growth of the community. When the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad made Hutton a switching station, all who were associated with B&O Railroad from one end to the other knew it as "Hutton Switch." In 1917 the post office changed the name a final time back to Hutton.

The documented history of Hutton School begins with the assign-

ment of J.F. Ashby as teacher for the 1875-76 school year, but it is likely that the school was in existence prior to that time. In 1883 Isaac Kuykendall requested a replacement of the school building, citing "insufficiency of the house . . . and its dilapidated condition." In response, the Board sent used desks and seats from Oakland. The bill for desks and repairs amounted to \$4.65.

March 1884 sixth grade test scores for orthography (spelling), reading, arithmetic, grammar, history, geography, geometry, and writing were published in the local newspaper. The examination consisted of 10 questions on each branch, except orthography which consisted of 20 words to be written. The average follows for each student: Tina Connell, 90.4; Maggie Hughes, 90.6; Mary Casey, 90; Josie Harned, 95; Stuart Kuykendall, 83.5; Thomas Hughes, 89.4. Hutton



Hutton School group prior to 1920. Photo courtesy of George Perrine.



Hutton School group, unknown year. Photo courtesy of Sylvia Beckman.

Both of the photographs above were taken prior to 1920. They were thought to be the last school in Hutton. After *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear* had gone to the printer, the page of photographs shown was discovered in the *Annual Report of the State Board of Education* for 1920. These photos were taken the day Hutton School was recognized as a "standard school."

School was one of three schools in the county in 1887 which could boast of a "library." The other two schools were Oakland and Fairsweep. All libraries were started the previous year.

In the summer of 1888, trustees

W. A. Daily and J. A. Connell requested that the school be moved "from where it was held last winter to a room opposite the depot at Hutton." The move was under consideration, until Martin Hughes, a third trustee, along

with another patron appealed against the decision, and the Board sustained the appeal. November 18, 1890, John and Margaret Connell deeded  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of ground to the School Commissioners for one dollar. The deed located the lot on the south side of Hutton and Ashby Road, today's Tannery Road. The March 1891 minutes of the Board listed Hutton as among the new schools built in the fall of 1890, but it gave no details. Five years later the Board agreed "to allow the citizens at Hutton to overhaul, enlarge and repair their school house and allow them the use of the same for Protestant meetings and Sunday School in consideration thereof."

By the fall of 1906 Hutton School had a potential of 70 pupils. At that time a room over "Carney and Pendergast's store was fitted up for the higher grades." This situation continued for twelve years with the citizens of Hutton making numerous requests for a new building. The school building apparently deteriorated prompting a citizen to write the following:

The Hutton school building to one appears like a blot on a most perfect landscape. The dilapidated condition surely suggests that one more effort be made to impress on the school board the necessity of erecting a more up-to-date and improved building. Perhaps the trustees could use their influence in obtaining this much needed favor. (May 20, 1915)

Finally, in 1918, the Board began considering a new two-room school building for Hutton. Architect

George F. Sansbury, from Cumberland, drew specifications, and D. E. Bolden of Oakland won the contract for \$3,297 and an additional \$128.50 to pay costs incidental to alterations in the plans as required by the State Superintendent of Schools. When a note for \$3,929.38 came due, the Board borrowed \$1,500 from Tioga Tanning Company and \$1,000 from the citizens, the \$1,000 to be repaid by the County Commissioners.

The Board authorized the purchase of two "Waterbury Sanitary Closet Outfits, at \$107.70, and two Waterbury Heating and Ventilating Systems, at \$276, for the proposed new school building at Hutton. After a year, the completed new building was ready for use. It was "state of the art."

Meantime, in the spring of 1919, the State Board of Education adopted specific requirements for standardizing Maryland schools. Among the 37 requirements to qualify as a "Standard" school were the following: (1) Library of at least 50 books per room; (2) A piano, organ or Victrola with at least 12 approved records; and (3) One new standard picture, framed, unless there are already three in the room. Pictures of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were commonly displayed. Few, if any, small schools had an organ or piano. However, most schools had, or were striving for, a wind-up "Victrola" and a supply of records. Some other requirements to be met were an improved type of building; ample and well kept grounds; correct lighting,





Top photo: Hutton School building, 1920. Second: Hutton School Teachers and pupils. Third: Frank Rathbun, superintendent; Miss Edna Marshall, supervisor; Misses Theresa Barnhill and Carrie Mann, teachers. Fourth and Fifth: Playground Apparatus. Bottom Photo: Entitled "A Citizen not Interested in a Standard School." (A closeup look at the picture reveals the white spots to be clutter.) Names of all trustees and teachers and the years they served are listed in *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear* which will soon be available at the Garrett County Museum. Photo courtesy of Michael Dennis.

heating and ventilation; good sanitation; approved furniture for pupils and teachers; proper equipment; first-class teachers living in the community; and a community actively interested in the welfare of the school. The Hutton School community was sincerely working to make its school "the best."

The following article is one of several which appeared in the "Hutton" column in the local newspaper.

The community should indeed be glad to learn that the Hutton public school is soon to rank second in standard schools in Maryland. Every effort is being made on the part of both instructors and pupils to effect an accomplishment of this cherished project in the next few days at which time Mr. Holloway, a member of the State Board of Education, and Miss Marshall, of Oakland, grade supervisor for Garrett county, are expected to be present to inspect the building and its modern equipment, which is quite essential for a school of the present century. The school grounds have recently been relieved of an accumulation of rubbish and very laboriously "swept" and "garnished" by the obliging as well as congenial men of the village. The whole aspect presents a very pleasing view to all who chance to be passing along the main thoroughfare of the village, and in truth it may be said that "love's labor has not been in vain. (1920)

Another headline in the same issue read: "The Hutton School Now

a Standard School." State Supervisor of Rural Schools, Mr. William J. Holloway, had visited the school and found that it met all thirty-seven requirements to be a "standard school." Yes, Hutton school was one of only twelve standard schools in the state of Maryland, and the *only one* in Garrett County. The official celebration took place June 9, 1920. People from Hutton, Crellin, Corinth (WV) and other places gathered for the activities which began with a short entertainment by the school children, followed by two dodge ball games between Hutton and Crellin. Hutton lost both games, but the children displayed "fine team spirit." Prominent guests included Mr. Franklin Rathbun, County School Superintendent, and Miss Edna M. Marshall, Grade Supervisor, both of whom spoke; Mr. C.W. Morris, trustee of Hutton school; Miss Theresa Barnhill and Miss Carrie Mann, teachers; and Mr. Holloway, member of the State Board of Education. The people of Hutton certainly had every right to be proud; they had received a well-merited award.

Christmas was always celebrated in Hutton School. In the new school building the celebration was even more special. The following paragraphs provide a description of the decorations and the activities of the holiday.

A beautiful Christmas program was very successfully rendered on Thursday Evening, December 21, in the Hutton public school building. Nearly every scholar participated and with few

exceptions acquitted themselves most creditably. The affair was managed by Miss Eva Falkenstein, the principal of the school, who is deserving and receiving much praise, especially for the artistic effect that was produced by the various scenes and recitals on the program. The most pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment was the rendition of a very ancient and beautiful Christmas hymn entitled "Silent Night, Holy Night" by a number of the school children under the very excellent and capable leadership of Miss Falkenstein, the instructor.

The senior room of the school building was most appropriately decorated for the occasion; a very neat spruce tree, laden with beautiful ornaments, graced a corner of the stage, while a waxen taper glowed forth from every window, giving fitting expression of the true light that came into the world over nineteen hundred years ago—an anniversary that is celebrated the world over. There were also many other symbols of the happy Yule-tide in evidence, all of which, no doubt breathed unconsciously a breath of the Christmas spirit into the hearts of the vast audience that was assembled to witness the execution of that which I have endeavored to describe.

At the conclusion of the very splendid program Santa Claus appeared upon the scene, much to the delight of all, greeting the children with a loud shout and hurrah, and soon after distributing the candies and oranges which the good teachers had provided as a treat for their scholars. (1923)

Prior to the 1925 Christmas holidays "pupils of the Hutton school rendered a very prettily prepared program before a large and appreciative audience. At the close of the exercises the instructors treated the pupils to candies, popcorn and oranges. The president of the Lang-Horton Tanning Co., Mr. J. Harry Lang, of New York, had provided two large pails of choice candies for the students." Unfortunately, the tannery was soon after partially destroyed by fire and was not rebuilt.

Hutton School organized a P.T.A. (Parent Teachers' Association) April 17, 1925, and elected Mr. Lawson, Mr. Pendergast, Mrs. B.J. Scott and Miss Virginia Scott as officers.

The following pupils of Hutton School had perfect attendance for the first month of school in October of 1929. Margaret Wotring, Lucretia Woods, Mary Stahl, Helen Ralston, Nellie Losh, Emma Kisner, Emma Losh, Bernice Ervin, Maxine Delawder, Shirley Ervin, Freda Crissinger, Lucille Freeland, Naomi Crissinger, Charles Freeland, Ray Freeland, Albert Stahl, and Malcolm Wotring.

In December 1930, for some unexplained reason, possibly the loss of the tannery (destroyed by fire in 1925) along with the effects of the Depression, the Board closed Hutton School and arranged with Cecil Ramsey to bus students to Crellin School and Oakland High. They transferred Miss Mrytle Reese, the teacher, to Crellin. Much protest followed. In the spring of 1931, a delegation



consisting of B.H. Long, Bert Scott, M.G. Mallotte, F.P. Baker, Brydon Hardesty, G.W. Wood, and Mattie E. Wood went before the Board requesting that Hutton School be reopened. In defense the Board stated that it was acting in accordance with State School Law and that its obligations did not permit its granting the request as made. Soon after, Hutton was listed with a number of other schools to be sold. However, the Board reopened Hutton school in September of that year "due to the large number of children in the Hutton community which number had greatly increased during the past six or eight months." (Jan. 6, 1932)

School records show that in January 1935 the Board applied for WPA (Works Progress Administration) assistance to provide sanitary privies for Hutton school "in order to complete the 100% sanitation of all schools in Garrett County."

Then came the disastrous headlines: "Fire Destroys Hutton School House Saturday (February 17, 1940), Cause Of Blaze Undetermined; Children Attending At Crellin."

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the Hutton one-room elementary school early last Saturday morning. Members of the Oakland Fire department were summoned about 5 o'clock but by the time they had made the 6-mile run to Hutton the building was too far gone. The school presumably had not been occupied since Friday afternoon when the pupils were dismissed. There was no fire left in the stove.

Arrangements were made to transport the school children to Crellin temporarily, where there was an extra room in the school there.

Rumors of arson abounded, but there was no proof. Immediately parents began a campaign for the replacement of their building. State approval was necessary. An exchange of letters took place between Superintendent Rathbun and State Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Albert S. Cook. August 2, 1940, Mr. Rathbun wrote to Dr. Cook stating the following: "It has been found impossible, so far as the attitude of the patrons of the former Hutton School is concerned, to continue the transportation of the pupils of that community to the Crellin School." (July 11, 1940) The final answer did not come until the following year.

In the meantime, the unhappy citizens of Hutton had gotten the impression that the school would be rebuilt prior to the new school year. Thirty-five people signed a petition criticizing the School Board for allegedly failing to fulfill a promise and stating their refusal to send their 41 affected children to the Crellin School. Family names on the petition included Hauser, Markley, Pendergast, Hardesty, Lewis, Slabaugh, Roy, Durst, Hauser, Gank, Sereno, Bergner, Sanders, Woods, Carney, Trout, Sidebottom, Long, Pendergast, Lee, and O'Haver.

Superintendent Rathbun declared that as early as June the Board of Education had informed citizens of

Hutton that the Hutton school would not be rebuilt.

Not all families refused to ride the bus. Among the 18 children who went to Crellin were one Bergner, two DeWitts, a Frazee, five Ganks (from two families), three Sineses, one Sterling, one Teets, three Wilts, and one Wotring.

A lengthy article from the *Baltimore Sun* Correspondent was printed in the December 5, 1940, issue of *The Republican* and included the following excerpt.

Left off of most maps, this little Garrett county community of less than one hundred, perched to 2,462 feet above sea level and clinging to the eastern side of the Maryland-West Virginia border, doesn't want to admit it's not keeping up with the world.

In fact, it gets downright angry when it is suggested that the world—and especially that part of it which is known as Crellin located two miles to the east—has something better to offer.

As it is, there are ten families so disturbed by the fact that the Garrett County Board of Education and the State Board of Education won't rebuild its one-teacher schoolhouse which burned last winter that some twenty children are receiving no education at all this year.

#### **PUPILS PLAYING HOOKEY.**

The children, all of school age, are playing hookey at the instigation of their parents, while the school authorities appear not to be looking at the apparent violation of truancy laws.

State Senator Clifford Friend supported the group for a new school. In a second article in the same issue of *The Republican*, the *Baltimore Sun* correspondent wrote:

On their side is State Senator Clifford Friend. There are votes up in the Hutton hills and he is looking after them. He is taking the matter of the school to the State school board—and if nothing is done—to the General Assembly.

Senator Friend has taken this course before. He got a bill passed at a recent session which made it obligatory for the County Commissioners to levy enough money to build a school at McHenry for an enrollment of nine children. (That school did not materialize.)

Property owners, when they look at their tax bills, realize that more than 5 cents on it is accounted for by the Senator's bill for the schoolhouse which none of the school authorities thought should be built. It was their mind to transport the McHenry children to a larger consolidated school.

#### **DISCUSSION AROUND STOVES**

Around the egg stoves in the stores the plight of Hutton often is discussed. They don't take so much interest in where schools are built as in how much the taxes will be.

But in Oakland, the county seat, the Senator is the object for some heated words from those in and out of the school business.

It is said, during these discussions, that maybe the parents would like to be arrested for not sending their children to school. Plainly the law says they should be.

But on the other hand, the authorities who would order the arrests feel that such methods will stir up more ill feeling and offer a talking point for those, like the Senator, who are encouraging the parents to non-cooperation.

Meanwhile, snow is falling on the mountain sides and another school year is nearing its mid-point and the children are dropping behind their former classmates.

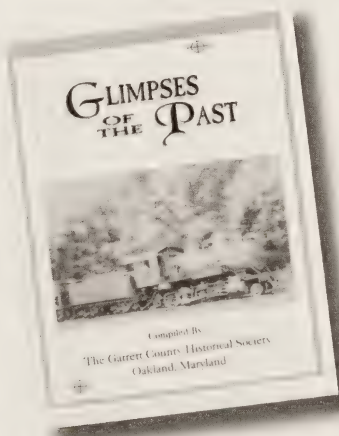
The final decision of the State Board of Education for replacing Hutton School building came in the summer of 1941 when Dr. Cook denied the request, quoting Section 50 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland which read : "The county Board of Education shall consolidate schools whenever in their judgment it is practicable, and arrange, when

possible without charge to the county, and shall pay, when necessary, for the transportation of pupils to and from such consolidated schools." The local Board of Education had little choice. More than two-thirds of the funds to run the school system came from the State. Since the Hutton school had been eliminated in the "natural course of events," it was more in keeping with the state-wide policy not to rebuild it.

June 25, 1945, the Board of Education sold the Hutton School ground to Emory W. Adams for \$125.

Eventually the citizens of Hutton became resigned to the situation, and the controversy subsided. Thus, twice having received State recognition, Hutton went from a position of prominence to the state of obscurity.

# Glimpses of the Past



This wonderful volume of pictures of Garrett County's past is now available at the museum. It may be purchased there for just \$10.



# Tornados Of 1998

by John A. Grant



**This church's bell tower was half destroyed.**

On the evenings of May 31 and June 2 of 1998, two popular myths about violent weather were dispelled: The first was that "a person living in the mountains doesn't have to worry about tornados; they only occur in flat places like Kansas and Oklahoma. The second applies to natural disasters like tornados: "They never hit twice in the same place."

On Sunday evening, May 31, 1998, the center of Salisbury, Pa., was ripped apart by a tornado. Two days later in the evening of June 2, 1998, a second tornado hit the same Somerset County town and surrounding countryside. The myth about "mountains" and "never twice" were

dispelled forever in the minds of tri-state areas. Unfortunately, the second tornado also spilled down into Garrett and Allegany counties of Maryland, ripping off roofs, collapsing old buildings, and uprooting trees.

## CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

As a part of contemporary history, imagine the complacency of the average person watching the Sunday evening weather forecast on television. Thunder storms with strong wind gusts were forecast for Sunday evening, May 31, 1998. It was part of the turbulent weather system moving in from the Midwest. Other than disconnecting electronic equipment



**There used to be a store on this corner.**

in case of a power surge caused by lightning, or making sure that windows were closed, the popular myths about tornados enforced a natural air of complacency: "worry about a tornado . . . Never."

**MONDAY MORNING  
SALISBURY AND POCAHONTAS**

"Violent" is the best way to describe the passage of the weather system on Sunday evening. There were brilliant flashes of lightning, loud crashes of thunder, and a heavy downpour of rain over the tri-state area. When the damages at Salisbury and Pocahontas were announced on the radio on Monday morning, people were not surprised; the storm came near everyone that night. And with the distressing news came the sobering realization, "it can happen here."

As expected, local television crews converged on Somerset County on Monday morning. They found that U.S. 219 at Salisbury was closed to all traffic. Grant Street (the main street and Rt. 219) was completely blocked by trees blown down and parts of buildings. No one was admitted to the town except emergency personnel because of the downed utility lines. Late in the day, a path was finally cut through the debris and traffic was allowed to move through the town once more.

**TUESDAY—SALISBURY**

On Tuesday, the author visited both Salisbury and Pocahontas; the damage in Pocahontas was minimal compared to the destruction in Salisbury. As with the peculiarity of such storms, the east and west ends of Main Street looked quite normal; the ends

of the street belied the fact that the center of town was ravaged.

There in the center of town was an overwhelming scene of destruction; tree limbs and leaves were everywhere. Interlaced with the tree limbs were boards and pieces of roofing. Even sadder was the shattered condition of houses and store buildings. One person described the scene as "looking like a war zone." Perhaps it did look that way, but in all honesty the havoc wrought by the tornado that hit Salisbury was almost beyond words.

However, the scene was not one of complete human despair: Utility crews were busy restoring power lines; volunteers were busy clearing the streets, loading the debris into dump trucks; other volunteers were nailing plywood over broken windows and on damaged roofs. Here and there furniture was being removed from heavily damaged buildings for storage in a safer place.

Looking at all of this, a person was amazed that only one death resulted when the tornado hit town; this was young Jessica Miller, who was killed when the van she was in was crushed by a falling tree.

#### **TUESDAY EVENING TELEVISION**

Personal apprehension was heightened on Tuesday evening with 6 p.m. weather forecast. The forecast announced another round of thunder storms and high winds coming to the tri-state area. Recalling the devastation inflicted by Sunday night's storm, any complacency about unsettled weather turned into apprehension when this announcement was broadcast. Later,

a great many people stated that because of the destruction in Salisbury on Sunday evening, they were better able to cope with what might happen on Tuesday evening. Later, a prayer of thanks went forth from everybody to the Pittsburgh television stations for their responsible broadcasting on Tuesday evening.

The weather forecast people announced that not one but two lines of thunderstorms were to enter southwestern Pennsylvania and then sweep down into Maryland and West Virginia. As the television weather radar picked up the power of the storm cells, the TV stations either canceled or repeatedly interrupted their major network shows to announce the approaching danger. As the evening progressed and the first round of storms hit the area, "on the spot reports" indicated that tornado force winds accompanied this turbulent weather. The fact that the television stations kept tracking the dual line of thunderstorms helped utility and rescue crews in the tri-state area work more efficiently.

As Tuesday evening unfolded, it became evident that the worse part of the storm was following exactly the same path as the tornados of Sunday evening; Salisbury and Pocahontas were to be hit a second time, but not with the same devastating effects of the Sunday evening storm. Then, with the strange nature of such storms, they swung down into Garrett County, threatening an area as far south as Deep Creek Lake.

Storms such as these often fol-



low capricious patterns; in this one the tornado winds themselves stayed near the Mason-Dixon Line, hitting the Finzel and Frostburg areas of Maryland. Although the winds touched down in wider spaced areas, they still did a lot of damage; there were roofs blown off, buildings collapsed, and trees uprooted. One side effect of this second storm was a heavy downpour of hail. For several hours the next morning some sections of roads were impassable because of the accumulation of shredded leaves and hail stones.

#### HELP RESPONSE

Cleanup and recovery work began almost immediately after the

first tornado hit on Sunday evening. Volunteers from Maryland and West Virginia flocked to the area to help within hours after the first storm. Collections of food and clothing began the day after the first storm, cleanup and repairs were begun on Monday and continued after the second storm hit.

Today, unless a person knew about the storms, there is nothing unusual about the town of Salisbury except a few vacant lots here and there where a building was destroyed, or damaged beyond repair. Now, only the citizens know of the devastation that was the aftermath of the two tornados that hit the area ten years ago.

## Accessions

*February 28, 2008, through May 13, 2008*

- Deer Park Hotel saucer.....*gift from Bob and Leanna Boal*
- Tierck Clafsén DeWitt Genealogy.....*gift from Keith Sines*
- "The Civil War in Maryland," Oakland's Great Outhouse  
Race cap, and information .....*gifts from John Watkins*
- "Over the Alleghenies" .....*gift from Sonny O'Haver*
- Garrett County Album that belonged to  
Mary I. Love.....*gift from David Ramsey*
- 1941 Oakland Elementary School closing  
exercise booklet.....*gift from Barbara Humes*
- "1952 Modern Railroads".....*gift from John and Cathy Adams*
- Vindex pictures .....*gift from Frances Paugh*

# *Lonesome Red Caboose*

*by John A. Grant*



There it sits on the north side of Rt. 40, near the Casselman River, east of Grantsville, Maryland. It's an old red caboose beside the road bed of the vanished Casselman River Railroad that first served the lumber industry in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Later, when the lumber era ended, it served the numerous coal mines in this area of Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Travelers on U.S. 40 might glance at the old caboose as they ride past on Rt. 40 and wonder where it came from, because what used to be the old railroad location is now obliterated with trees and bushes. Of course, the fact that there aren't any rails or cross ties to mark the location of the railroad doesn't matter because on close examination they wouldn't see any wheels on the old caboose either; it just sits there slowly falling apart.

The old Casselman Railroad itself had a varied existence. Begun in the late 1800s as a lumber railroad, it ran from a siding in Meyersdale, Pa., to Jennings, Md. Along the way it served many saw mills with sidings going up short distances on stream branches to those mills. It was an era in local history when lumber was "king."

When the lumber industry era ended, the railroad became a "coal road," serving many mines along the route in the same way it had served the saw mills. In the beginning the railroad served the "deep mines"; later, during and for a short time after the end of WW II it also carried coal from "Strip" mines. Finally in the 1950s coal mining ended. No longer a profitable railroad, the rails and cross ties were removed and the Casselman Railroad ceased to exist. Today, it's hard to see where it existed.

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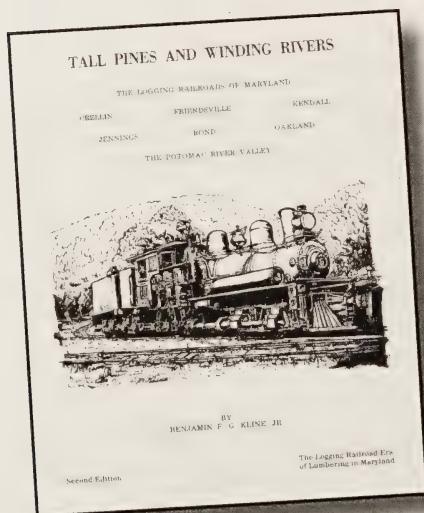
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*For Sale at the Garrett  
County Historical  
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# THE Glades Star

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SEPTEMBER 2008



Saved from the wrecker's ball. The restored Bartlett/McComas Home.



## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
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- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
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- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
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# *Saving the Bartlett/ McComas Home “A Labor of Love”*

*by Bob Boal with Charles McIntire*



**Restoration begins. Charlie McIntire stands at the far left.**

From the late 1990s until 2006 it seemed certain to most Oakland residents that the empty and rapidly deteriorating Dr. Henry Wheeler McComas home at 16 North Second Street would soon suffer the fate of its two Victorian neighbors across the street and be razed. Through a true “Labor of Love” Charlie and Barbara McIntire determined that the home so special to them just “had to be saved.”

In 2006 the McIntire family completed the purchase of the home that once belonged to Charlie’s grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. Henry Wheeler McComas, and the total restoration began. Charlie had spent a lot of time in his grandparents’ home during his childhood, and he and Barbara had spent a few years living in an apartment in the home in the early 1950s after their marriage. The Town of Oakland and Second Street residents



**The porch and its roof are gone in an early stage of the restoration.**

in particular are truly the beneficiaries of the restored Victorian beauty. Sadly, Barbara McIntire's health was fragile when the restored home was ready for occupancy and she had precious little time left to enjoy the wonderful house that Charlie and family now call "home." Fortunately the entire McIntire family had been able to spend an enjoyable Christmas season together at the "McComas House" in 2007.

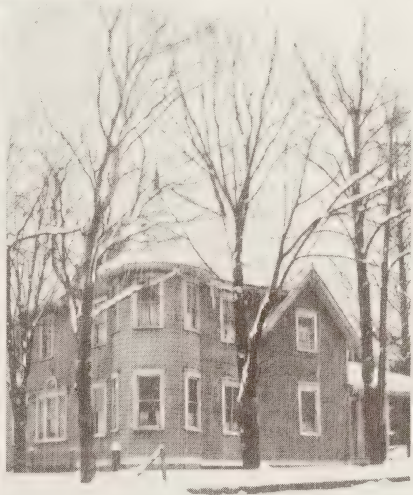
The early history of the Bartlett/McComas House is a bit "cloudy," but Charlie researched many documents and records in order to arrive

at a historical time-line for one of Oakland's early "Board and Batten" homes. The lot on which the house sits is part of the very early Pennington Addition to the Town of Oakland. Sometime in the 1880s the lot was held in trust for a Louisa Bartlett by Felix Colardeau, an early Oakland mayor and a native of the French Island of Guadeloupe in the West Indies. The older (northern) part of the house, dating probably from the Civil War era, was built by the family of Dr. Edward H. Bartlett, a Confederate physician. The Bartlett family sold the small home in the late 1880s





**Interiors of the home before restoration.**



**Above: Bartlett/McComas home in the 1930s.**



to the Dr. Henry Wheeler McComas family, Dr. Henry being the son of Dr. Josiah Lee McComas, who treated Jefferson Davis in 1859. Soon after purchasing the Bartlett House, Dr. McComas added the large southern portion, which includes the beautiful turret with curved glass windows. After the death of Dr. Henry McComas the home became the property of his daughter (Charlie's mother), Martha

McComas McIntire, until sometime in the mid-20th century when it was divided into three apartments and changed ownership several times. Fortunately, Charlie and Barbara noticed the tremendous decline of the house after 2000 and decided to use their appreciation of its history and their talents to save it. Oakland and Garrett County have truly benefited from their efforts.

# Jefferson Davis in Oakland

by Lawrence Sherwood



**Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America.**

Jefferson Davis, his wife, and their three children came to Oakland in April 1859. Both of the parents had health problems and they came here partly for health reasons. Although they owned a summer cottage in New Hampshire, they wanted to come to a place with easy access to Washington, D.C. Mr. Davis was a U.S. Senator and it appeared that the secession of the southern states might come to pass. As a senator from Mississippi he was later to back his state's secession, and he became provisional president

of the Confederacy in February 1861, less than two years after his visit to the Glades Hotel in Oakland.

Senator Davis was fortunate that Dr. Josiah Lee McComas had come to Oakland from Baltimore to practice medicine just the year before, also because of ill health. In a 1909 interview with a reporter from the *Baltimore American*, Dr. McComas said, "In that summer of 1859 I had a noted man for a patient, Jefferson Davis, United States Senator from Mississippi and later President of the Confederate States. He was in bad shape physically, and

was accompanied by Mrs. Davis and three children. A doctor came with them from Washington, and I could see Mrs. Davis' look of suspicion and distrust as the doctor (who had to leave at once) committed the Senator to the hands of a youthful and seemingly inexperienced country physician. However, I was lucky enough to effect a complete cure for my patient. When he asked me for his bill, I told him \$30. I still recollect that he was not at all pleased and asked me if that wasn't a steep charge



**The first Glades Hotel, located immediately across the tracks from the railroad station. Built in the 1850s, destroyed by fire 1874.**

for a country doctor. My answer was that it was much less than a city M.D. would have assessed and that no city man could have done more than I did—that is, cured him. This put Senator Davis in a good humor and he paid me three ten-dollar gold pieces, which I have yet. Later on, after secession had been accomplished, he commissioned a mutual friend to offer me a place, of much honor and dignity, in his personal entourage.”

A strict Union man, Dr. McComas did not accept Davis’ offer and in 1861 volunteered for service in the Union Army. He was appointed assistant surgeon and was stationed for a while in Oakland and later at New Creek (Keyser, West Virginia). A year

later he returned to Oakland where he served until the end of the war.

Another interesting story about Jefferson Davis’ visit to Oakland is told by Thomas J. Brandt in his “Boyhood Memories of Oakland, Maryland, Fifty Years Ago.” Written in 1900, it appeared in the Summer 1956 edition of *Tableland Trails*. He writes, “One Sunday when the preacher was about to begin, Mr. John Daily (Editor’s note: presumably owner of the Glades Hotel where the Davis family stayed) and a slim, pale-faced man took opposite seats to the one I occupied. The stranger attracted my attention more than the sermon. He wore fine clothes, expensive jewelry, and even had a gold toothpick which



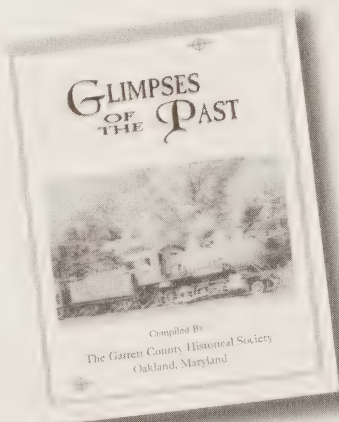
he used once during the sermon. The preacher, who never did preach long sermons, was more brief than usual. He had another appointment north of Oakland for the evening and stopped at our house for dinner. It was then I learned who the pale-faced man was, as the preacher was relating how embarrassed he was trying to tell such a man as Jefferson Davis anything he did not already know."

Jefferson Davis was the only President of the Confederacy. He was born in Kentucky in 1808, graduated from West Point in 1828, and was posted to the Pacific Northwest. He resigned as a first lieutenant when he eloped with the daughter of his commander, Zachary Taylor, and went to Mississippi to become a planter. His wife

died shortly after the wedding, and he then married Varina Howell. Elected to Congress, he served in the House of Representatives 1845-47. During the Mexican War he compiled a enviable record as a colonel. He turned down a commission as a brigadier general. He was a U.S. Senator until President Franklin Pierce named him Secretary of War. After this term he won reelection to the Senate, which was his position when he came to Oakland in 1859.

How strange is the hand of fate! One can only wonder what the course of history might have been had not Dr. McComas been able to "effect a complete cure" on Jefferson Davis in Oakland in 1859.

## Glimpses of the Past

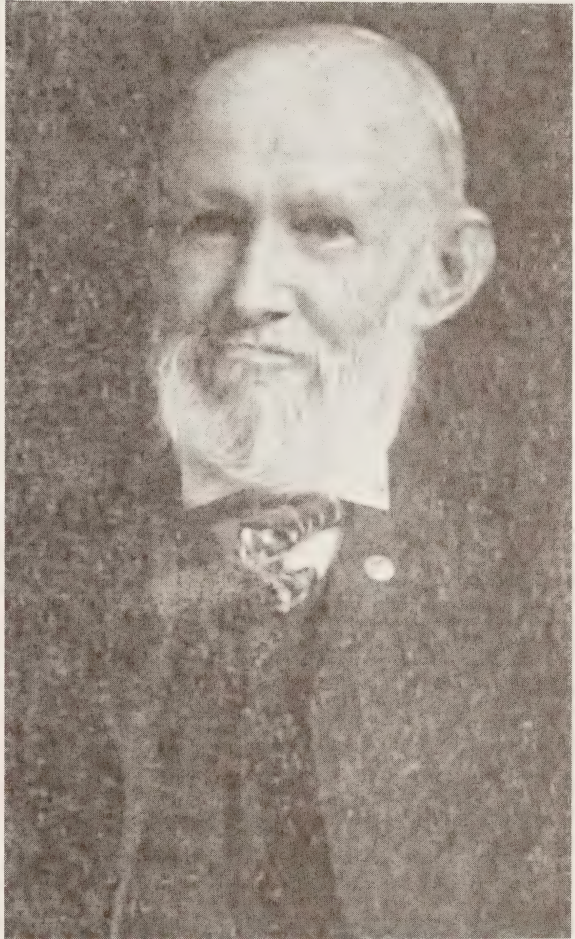


This wonderful volume of pictures of Garrett County's past is now available at the museum. It may be purchased there for just \$10.

# *The Old Doctor Dr. Josiah Lee McComas*

*Editor's note: Much of this article was written by Nell Browning and appeared in the September 1960 issue of the Glades Star. The part dealing with Dr. McComas and the church bell was written by Lawrence Sherwood. See his article on Jefferson Davis elsewhere in this issue.*

Among Garrett Countians whose fame extended widely beyond the field of local activity was Dr. J. Lee McComas (1832-1914.) An outstanding physician of his time, he practiced medicine and surgery during a half century, a recognized authority on many medical subjects, particularly diseases of children. His was the day of the "horse and buggy" doctor. Dr. McComas drove thousands of miles in fair weather or foul to attend stricken



**Dr. J. Lee McComas in 1900.**

ones in village or countryside. When snow drifts or nearly bottomless mud made roads and farm lanes impassable for the buggy, he went on horseback during many years.

As Dr. J. Lee McComas neared the end of his long medical career times were changing. The automobile had begun to supplant the horse and buggy and transform the countryside into something it had not been before.

The Old Doctor knew everybody and had an unceasing abundance of ready wit and humor, the latter sometimes pointed at himself. Many of his jokes and tall tales were remembered by the late William A. Sturgiss, veteran pharmacist. A change of diet was recommended for a patient who had been poisoned by eating toadstools by mistake, thinking them mushrooms; a sufferer from loss of memory was asked to pay the fee in advance; patients of modest means were treated for nervousness—if they were rich it was psychoneurosis. A bronchitis sufferer was assured his ailment would respond readily to treatment.

"How come you're so certain, Doc?" the patient asked.

"My dear sir," the doctor said, "I've had bronchitis myself for fifteen years."

Another patient asked, "How can I repay you for your kindness?" "By check, postal money order, or cash," the doctor said.

Asked if any particular class of people lived longest he said, "Yes—Centenarians."

In a serious mood the Old Doctor once observed that his profession was the only one that strove constantly

to obliterate the reason for its existence.

After 1872 the patronage of the mountain summer resort hotels was large, and the medical knowledge and skills of Dr. McComas contributed in great measure to the popularity of the Oakland-Deer Park areas as health resorts. Many distinguished men and women came each season. Some were patients of Dr. McComas, among them Jefferson Davis, who had been Secretary of War in the cabinet of President Pierce.

In his day Dr. McComas had many difficult surgical operations to perform. One of these was a dangerous operation for cancer. The wife of Aaron Boyer of Accident was the patient. Praying for skill and success, as was his custom, the doctor said, "If this operation is successful I will give the fee for church bell." After a successful operation he received the fee of \$500 with which he bought the bell.

A few years ago the bell needed repair. It was sent to the company in Glen Burnie that had made it, McShane Bell Foundry. Examination of the company's records showed that in Book C, Page 10, Order #1835 the bell had originally been ordered January 12, 1883, and shipped February 27. The total weight was 520 pounds. It was "ordered by Dr. J. Lee McComas for M.E. Church, Oakland, Garrett Co., Md."



# Bridge To Nowhere

by John A. Grant



**Three hundred feet beyond this bridge is a farm house and no more National Pike.**

The title "Bridge To Nowhere" carries with it a whole group of questions about why such a bridge still exists. Seemingly, you can take your pick, because such a bridge is an orphan in the world of bridges. Bridges, of course, are built to meet a specific need and when that need is gone, seemingly there is no longer any reason for it to still exist.

However, there are a number of

reasons as to why any bridge is left standing; it can be a masterpiece of some forgotten day, or it can be the end of someone's brilliant idea at a time when such an idea seemed practical; or it can simply be the object of some State budget omission going unrecognized for years and years until it is simply forgotten.

Driving through Garrett County and up into Pennsylvania, a person

can see many old stone bridges near the present Rt. 40; they were part of the early highway known the "National Road." Most of them are built of stone, which was the best available material for building any big structure during the early 1800s.

Most of these structures are relatively small and designed to carry the highway over small streams and narrow gorges. However, where the old National Road had to cross over a river, the larger "arch" type of bridge was built.

Just east of Grantsville, Md., the Casselman River had to be crossed and the old highway crossed it on a large stone arch bridge. At the time it was built, this arch bridge was considered one of the largest arch bridges in the world. (Two thousand years ago, the Romans built longer and higher arch type bridges, but none of them had as large a "single" arch as the one at Grantsville.)

Although most Garrett County residents are familiar with the bridge, it is something out of the ordinary for many people. Back in the 1970s and early '80s photographers from a number of different places in the U.S. came to take photographs and moving picture shots of the bridge. Quite often they would invite your author to walk across the bridge and explain its structure and how it was used in the 1800s; one time photographer

came from England and another from Japan came to photograph the bridge for their television networks.

One bridge which is almost forgotten is the one that crosses Puzzley Run (one mile east of Keyser's Ridge). It called for some serious thought by the engineers who designed and built the old National Road. At that location the stream runs through a deep, narrow valley. Eventually, the engineers chose to cross the stream with a very high, narrow arch, and then put a sharp turn in the highway at the west end of the bridge.

From that point westward the next crossing that produced any difficult challenges was the one across the Youghiogheny River; at that location the river was very wide and subject to flooding in the springtime.

The engineers decided to go over the river with a series of small arches to carry the highway across the water. Knowing that the river was subject to flooding, they had to make the arches high enough to accommodate the springtime floods.

Surprisingly, this bridge is still there today, although it is often underwater because the old highway was made impassible by the building of the Youghiogheny River Reservoir following WWII. It can be seen during the summer months from a new highway and bridge which goes over the river near this location.

# Older Oakland Commercial Building Repaired



in front of the building and pulled them off the nearby electric line.

What caused the sudden collapse of this part of the building? Speculation went back to the storm of 1912 and hidden damage that had remained since that storm.

In the June 2008 Edition of *The Glades Star* there was a story about the collapse of the second story front of a building at the corner of Liberty and First Streets in Oakland. This same building lost the third story in a windstorm in 1912. Mr. A. D. Naylor, owner of the building in 1912, decided not to rebuild the third story, but made it a two story building from that time onward.

Then on the Sunday morning, February 17, 2008, seemingly without any cause, the bricks and windows fell out of the front second story of the building, landing on Liberty Street. On the way down, the cascading bricks also snagged the electric wires



Now the building has been repaired; the front is painted a slightly different and more attractive color. Plans are to move the business office into the building again and all business will be conducted from the same place as always.



# *Japanese TV Photographers At the Casselman River Bridge*

*by John A. Grant*

Often in the late 1980's, I would get a telephone call saying, "There are going to be some TV photographers at the Casselman River bridge. Can you meet them and tell them something about the old bridge and when it was built?"

And so on the appointed date I would drive to Grantsville, and meet the TV crew; most of the time they were from Baltimore, Washington, or New York. However, one time the crew was from London, England, and was in the United States to photograph some material for British television; someone had told them about the bridge over the Casselman River and they decided to photograph some pictures of it.

Usually, the crew included a shot of me walking over the bridge and telling about this particular bridge being the one with the biggest arch bridges in history at the time it was built, and my recollections of riding over it when I was a child.

One courteous thing that all of the television crews did was to ask for my name and address; two weeks later a video tape would arrive in the mail, featuring the day at the Casselman River Bridge and a footage of me walking over the bridge.

Then, in November 1987, I received a request from Washing-

ton saying that a Japanese TV crew wanted to come and photograph the bridge. It was to be for a Japanese documentary series called "Bridges Of The World."

TV Crew Director Scott Nakamori remarked, "This is a very old and unique bridge. It's hard to believe that it carried modern highway traffic up into the 1930s when a new highway bridge was built upstream.

I replied that I could remember crossing over the bridge long before the present highway bridge was built. I even laughed and told him how the car would seem to "jump up" whenever we crossed over the peak of the bridge arch.

The crew was very busy for the time they were there; they got the usual picture of me walking over the bridge and describing its type of arch structure. In addition they got a TV shot of Gary Yoder fly fishing in the river near the bridge and another TV shot of Grantsville's Mayor, Fred Holliday; and a member of the Garrett County Promotion Council on the bridge looking over the side at the Casselman River.

Like other times when TV crews were there, the director asked for my name and address; to my very great surprise three weeks later a video tape arrived in the mail showing all of the

shots they had taken at the bridge. English with Japanese language words. The sound track for the tape was in Japanese and printed at the bottom of each scene.

# *Promised Land School*

*by Alice Eary*

After *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear* had gone to press, Jean Grose and I became aware that we had omitted a very important picture. The picture was of the students and teacher of the Promised Land School.

Mrs. Martha Sanders and Linda Nazelrod each shared a copy of the picture and Mrs. Sanders provided all the names. We extend apologies to those ladies.



## **Promised Land School, Class of 1928-29.**

Top row (l-r): Maxine Paulie-Jamison, Elizabeth Paulie-McCartney, Willard Ringer, Thelma Ringer-Lewis, Tina Savage, Martha Jane Scott-Hutchinson.

Middle row: Richard Browning, Catherine White-Levin, Loretta Savage-Carskaden, Reubern Savage, Mary Scott Jackson (teacher), Joe Browning, Cora Savage, Pearl Young.

Bottom row: Pauline Browning-DeBerry, Willa Marie Paulie, Forrest Leo Sanders, Dortha May Sanders-Nemith, Velma Browning-Shank.

More information on Promised Land School can be found in *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear*, which may be purchased at Garrett County Museum.

If other school pictures come to our attention, we will share the information.

# Indians Visit Oakland

by John A. Grant

Several hundred people waited near the Oakland railroad station on a Sunday afternoon in late October 1927. The Iron Horse Fair in Baltimore had stayed open an extra week because of the vast crowds attending the centennial celebration of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The fair had ended on Saturday; people of Oakland and surrounding area who had not been able to attend the mammoth exposition had gathered at the Oakland railroad station the following Sunday, October 23, to see the old-fashioned train. It was to be filled with Indians returning to their reservation in Montana who had been a part of the fair program.

Both local and big city newspapers had published a schedule of the old fashioned train and where it would stop on its trip westward; Oakland was included as a stopping place.

About two o'clock a train whistle was heard to the east of Oakland; conversation ceased in the crowd of people waiting to see the train full of Indians. The whistling noise continued as the train came into view just east of the Second Street railroad crossing; but whistle noise sound wasn't from only one steam whistle blowing. Directly behind the 20th Century railroad engine was a 19th Century, old-fashioned wood burning engine, with a wide mouthed smoke stack also blowing its whistle. Hitched to the two locomotives were

the wooden passenger cars of the train, filled with Indians.

(Later it was learned that railroad officials were convinced that the old-fashioned locomotive of the Indian train couldn't possibly make it up the 17 Mile Grade to the east of Oakland without a "helper" engine.)

As the train slowed to a stop, Indians looking out the windows of the passenger cars waved to the people in the crowd. A few Indians got off the train and mingled with the crowd at the Oakland station; a few of them sold souvenirs of the Iron Horse Fair.

Meanwhile, at the back end of the train, others were assembling on the porch of the last car for a photograph by Photographer Jim Bell. They were prominent members of the Oakland community. In the group were Oakland's Mayor and the Editor of *The Republican* newspaper. They were standing with Chief Two Gun White Calf and some other Indian chiefs. The photographer hardly had time to snap the photograph when the whistles on the locomotives began to blow, signaling that the train was ready to move out of the station. The guests on the porch of the last coach scrambled back down, Indians from the crowd of spectators climbed back on the train, and with much waving of hands to each other, the train full of Indians pulled out of the Oakland station.



Although the train was gone, the very brief visit of the Indians was not forgotten by the local residents. For several weeks after the departure of the train. *The Republican* newspaper published progress of the train as it made its way back to the Dakota reservation. For weeks thereafter, the topic of casual conversation would somehow get back to the Sunday afternoon when the Indians visited

Oakland.

Post Script: This writer remembers as late as 1930, Miss Marion Leary bringing up the story of the visit to the Third Grade of Oakland Elementary School. Miss Marion was a person who had a lot of first hand information on the West and the Indians. She had spent time out there back in the 1890s.

## *Garrett County Historical Society Account Listing Treasurer's Report June 2008*

First United Bank & Trust CD—5266	
Transportation Museum—	\$10,000.00
Elevator Fund—	4,000.00
Emergency—	1,000.00
Total .....	\$15,384.56
First United Bank & Trust CD—4086	
(Furnace Emergency Fund).....	1,000.00
First United Bank & Trust Checking—2368.....	2,338.22
Susquehanna Checking—6701 .....	3,889.99
Petty Cash Fund.....	57.83
Total Funds of Deposit.....	\$21,680.60
Matthew W. Novak Memorial	
Historical scholarship fund	
\$5,000.00 account established September 11, 2003	
Total Funds on Deposit including interest .....	\$2,554.78
Outstanding Bills .....	\$0.00
Monthly Rental Income .....	\$1,620.00

# West Salisbury Foundry

by John A. Grant



**No more locomotives, so the end of the foundry has expanded part of the old locomotive shed.**

A famous newspaper reporter once quipped, "If you want a story, just open your eyes a little wider and you'll see it."

This is true for me when I was driving north of Garrett County into the town of West Salisbury, Pa. It was a slightly different route for me, because I usually drove northward from Maryland on U.S. 219. This route took me past the West Salisbury Foundry, and I realized that a story about the foundry was just waiting there to be written. As soon as possible, I returned to the foundry to write a story about it and to take some photographs; this was back in 1990.

I learned a lot of different things

concerning the history of the foundry. It dated back to 1880; it became a full fledged foundry when castings were needed by the Jennings Brothers Railroad, and after the railroad was abandoned and tracks removed, there was still a cut-out above a big door in the back so that a steam locomotive could be brought into the building for repair work. Early in the business, to change it from a blacksmith shop to a foundry an iron furnace was built. Known in the iron trade as a "cupola," it is two stories tall and follows the traditional style of being charged from the top and has tapping spouts on the bottom to carry off molten iron and slag.

Associated with the foundry work was the need for machine tool work; one by one lathes and drill presses were added. As the railroad work increased, so did the size of the machinery in the foundry. Although there isn't much need for it today, a six hundred ton hydraulic press is still there, ready for use.

Parts of the foundry work today are carried on much as in the past. Molds are made from patterns, and then molten iron is poured into the

mold. However, the molten metal work isn't confined to just iron. There is an electric furnace where brass and aluminum are melted for work in various other castings.

A person might wonder how such a foundry might still exist in the middle of a predominately farming community; there is always a need for all kinds of special iron pieces, and small foundries like West Salisbury Foundry and Machine Works are providing a vital service in filling this need.

## *Memorials*

Sgt. Robert D. Henline

*Wayne & Judy Wilt*

Betsy Whittelsey

*Bob & Leanna Boal*

Barbara McIntire

*Bob & Leanna Boal*

## *Donations*

Jodelle W. Wilson

Mary V. Jones

Asa & Marilyn McCain

Mrs. Marianna Naylor

Mrs. Pauline Faucett

David R. Harrison

Arthur & Carole Stevens



# *Oldest Running Mate Ever Had Maryland Roots*

*by Frederick N. Rasmussen—Baltimore Sun*

If the age of Republican presidential hopeful John McCain is of some concern to voters, how about the case of Henry Gassaway Davis, who was 80 when he was nominated to be Democratic nominee Alton B. Parker's vice presidential candidate in 1904. While Davis' name—not to mention Alton B. Parker's—is admittedly not on the tongues of most people these days, he does share a certain local distinction.

Throughout the nation's history, there have been two vice presidential candidates from Maryland: one was elected—Spiro T. Agnew in 1968; and one was not, and that's our man Davis. He was born in 1823 in Woodstock, Howard County, and educated in country schools. He was left fatherless when quite young and at the age of 19 began working as a brakeman on the B&O Railroad. Davis was reportedly so efficient that he was soon promoted to be freight conductor and afterward to passenger conductor. He was eventually made superintendent of the railroad's shops and terminals at Piedmont, West Virginia.

Davis' interest in politics was stimulated by a friendship with U.S.



**Henry Gassaway Davis**

Senator Henry Clay, who'd ride the B&O passenger trains from Baltimore on journeys that were completed by stagecoach to his home in Kentucky.

In 1858 Davis' Coal and Coke Co. began mining coal at Piedmont. He also took a major interest in the Piedmont National Bank, which later became the Davis National Bank. He expanded his business interests to include lumbering and building the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railroad, and later built a second line, the Coal & Coke Railway of West Vir-

ginia, which coursed some 200 miles from Elkins to Charleston. Along the way, Davis founded and helped develop two cities in West Virginia: Elkins and Davis.

Davis built a farm in Garrett County, and at the same time began lumbering operations in hemlock forests near Swallow Falls and Deep Creek. He built a spacious summer home at Deer Park (*Editor's note: where President Cleveland spent his honeymoon. See the June 2008 issue of the Glades Star*) and convinced John Work Garrett, president of the B&O, to build the Deer Park Hotel, which became a stylish summer resort of the heat-oppressed bon ton of New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, who arrived there aboard the railroad's steam cars.

His political career began with his election to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1864. He was elected to the state Senate in 1868 and re-elected in 1870. In 1871, he was elected to the U.S. Senate and served two terms. In 1882 he declined renomination and returned to Elkins to resume his business career.

At one time, his company, which became one of the largest coal companies in the world, had dominion over 135,000 acres of land, employed 1,600 men and operated two power plants. More than 1,000 coke ovens and nine coal mines were within a mile of his Coketon, W. Va., office.

Another Maryland connection was his wife. He was wed to Kate A. Bantz, daughter of Judge Gideon Bantz of Frederick, in 1853, and later

raised five children. The couple spent summers at Graceland, an elegant 260-acre estate in Elkins, and traveled in comfort aboard their private railroad car of the same name.

Davis later represented the United States at the Pan American conferences of 1889 and 1901. He was also a member of the United States Intercontinental Railway Commission, and he was the permanent chairman of the Pan American Railway Committee from 1901 until 1916.

When nominated for the vice presidency, Davis was 80. There is no doubt that ex-Senator Davis is a more robust and vigorous man than Gladstone was at the same age. He does not look a day over sixty, and few men of sixty can ride as he rides, forty miles on horseback a day," observed *The Washington Post* at the time.

Parker and Davis lost the 1904 presidential election to Theodore Roosevelt and Charles Fairbanks. However, Davis has earned a footnote in American political history, at least for the moment: He was the oldest person ever to be nominated for president or vice president on a major party's ticket. He was 92 when he died in Washington in 1916.

Among his philanthropic interests was Davis and Elkins College for which he donated the land. Davis, whose estate was estimated to be worth somewhere between \$10 million and \$30 million, left half of it to his surviving three children, and in a stroke of generosity, willed \$100 to Edward Gillam, his faithful longtime coachman.

## May Meeting of Historical Society

by John A. Grant

On the evening of May 16, 2008, the Garrett County Historical Society held its annual Spring meeting at the Pleasant Valley Community Center. A hundred members of the Historical Society and their guests were present to hear a talk by George Wunderlich, director of National Civil War Museum of Medicine.

The meeting was opened by Pres. Robert Boal, who made a few preliminary announcements and recognized some of the special guests present; then he asked the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to give the Invocation. Following the Invocation members of the Amish community served a delicious meal.

After the meal was completed, Pres. Boal began the business part of the meeting. A motion was made and passed to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting.

One outstanding item to be brought before the society was news of a gift from persons who wished to remain unnamed. The gift paid for all the new heating and air-conditioning work done at the Society's Museum in Oakland. This was an outstanding announcement and drew quite a round of applause from the Society members and their guests.

President Boal then introduced George Wunderlich, speaker for the evening. Instead of speaking on the Civil War Museum, Wunderlich

spoke on the development of the string banjo and had two ancient banjos with him that evening; they formed the nucleus of his talk to the Society. One was very ancient, had a gourd for its sound box, and dated to a time prior to the Civil War. He played and sang several tunes with this instrument.

The second instrument was also a banjo; it dated to the time just before the Civil War and resembled the modern banjo; Wunderlich also played several tunes on this instrument and accompanied them by singing some old tunes from the Civil War times. He ended his talk about 8:15 p.m.

The evening concluded with the drawing for the door prize and a special presentation of a framed picture to the Rev. John Grant. The picture was from a 1945 copy of *The Saturday Evening Post* and showed an Army Air Force Navigator at his desk in a B-29 Bomber. Through the window by his shoulder is seen another B-29 and beyond it a circular rainbow. Grant, who was a B-29 Navigator during WWII, had often spoken about seeing a circular rainbow when the plane, flying at high altitude, passing over top a thunder storm. The picture was presented to Grant by Offutt Johnson, a member of the Society.

The evening meeting was adjourned by Pres. Boal at 8:25 p.m.



# The Old Oaken Bucket

These words were written in 1818 by Samuel Woodworth. They were originally sung to the traditional tune *Jesse, The Flower o Dumblane* (aka *Jesse, the Flower of Dunblane*). In

1870 they were set to this melody by English composer George Kiallmark which was written for Moore's *Araby's Daughter*.

*How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood  
When fond recollection presents them to view  
The orchard, the meadow, the deep tangled wildwood,  
And ev'ry loved spot which my infancy knew  
The wide spreading pond, and the mill that stood by it,  
The bridge and the rock where the cataract fell;  
The cot of my father, the dairy house nigh it,  
And e'en the rude bucket that hung in the well.  
The old oaken bucket, the iron bound bucket,  
The moss covered bucket that hung in the well.*

*The moss covered bucket I hailed as a treasure,  
For often at noon, when returned from the field,  
I found it the source of an exquisite pleasure,  
The purest and sweetest that nature can yield.  
How ardent I seized it, with hands that were glowing,  
And quick to the white pebbled bottom it fell  
Then soon, with the emblem of turth overflowing,  
And dripping with coolness, it rose from the well.  
The old oaken bucket, the iron bound bucket,  
The moss covered bucket that hung in the well.*

**by Elwood S. Groves (reprinted from an older Glades Star)**

Today little thought is given to the extensive installations essential to the procurement and distribution of a vital necessity—water. Conduits and pipes are underground and unseen. Only the spigots and quarterly water bill remind the householder or business man of the elaborate and expensive mechanism required to bring him an essential without which

he could not live.

Time was when in rural communities individual family wells supplied this need, one for each dwelling or sometimes several families sharing the same well.

Before the development of well-drilling machines the wells were of the open type, “dug” wells. Very few of them are to be seen today; it is ac-



**A dug well is visible at the extreme left adjacent to the small, north portico in this early photo of what is now the David A. Burdock Funeral Home. The well is now covered by the concrete slab.**

cidental that any at all have survived the obliterating effects of time and development. Nearly all have long since been filled in with earth and rocks. Such as remain should be preserved as interesting historical relics to be shown to vacationers who flock to this area each season by the thousands, drawn hither by its unrivaled summer climate.

One such well, perhaps the last of fifty or more once in the town of Oakland, is still to be seen in the yard of the Leighton-Durst Funeral Home (*now David A. Burdock Funeral Home*) on Second Street, during many years the dwelling of the Loar family. It is equipped with windlass, rope, and bucket; all housed in a box-like wooden structure with hinged lid. Except when water was being drawn, the lid was kept closed. When this well was dug is not recorded but the time was

probably a century or more ago.

Such wells were dug with hand tools, the diameter of the bore being big enough to allow the workman room to dig until the needed depth was reached. Then the sides were lined with flat rocks laid brick-wise. Small rocks or gravel were packed in between the earthen walls and the rock lining. From ground level to bottom the depth of the Second Street well is about 16 feet with four feet of water. The diameter is two feet. Most dug wells were bigger; 3, 4, or 5 feet in diameter. According to reliable local tradition, there were three such wells within a fifty yard radius of where this article is being typed. These old wells were filled in many years ago. Signs of their former existence are now fewer than are remaining vestiges of the pioneer log cabins.

Occasionally newspaper readers

are reminded of the ancient wells in a mournful and tragic way as in the case of a little boy of the Pittsburgh area who during the winter of 1962 fell into one on his way to school across an open field. Workmen had uncovered the long disused well preparatory to a construction project.

Beside the Alder Street entrance to the county court house there is seen a concrete slab four feet square and a foot thick. This slab caps an open well once widely famed for the purity and excellence of its water. Instead of being filled in, the well was sealed and made accident proof. It could still be a source of the best water, although perhaps not in large volume. Another fine well was in the rear of the Ward Hinebaugh restaurant (now an empty foundation on the corner of Second and Oak Streets) filled in many years ago.

Efficient well drilling machines were developed about the middle of the last century but it was several decades before they came into wide use in this section. With their increased use, the open dug wells rapidly fell into disuse. Long before the drilling machine appeared, servable pumps were available, the earliest having been in use in Europe in the 15th Century. In this area, pumps gradually replaced the windlass and bucket as a more efficient means of drawing up the water. Very often the pump was installed on a stout platform over an open well.

Except for the windlass, rope and bucket, the well on the Leighton-Durst grounds is probably much

like that from which the beauteous Rebekah drew up water to refresh the servant of Abraham, sent by the patriarch to seek out a virtuous and worthy helpmate for his son Isaac. Other similar wells were "dugged" in the land of Gerar by Isaac and his servants.

A tourist attraction visited by thousands each year is the ancient open well near Scituate, Massachusetts, that provided inspiration for the familiar poem, "The Old Oaken Bucket," written by Samuel Woodworth in 1817 and set to the music of an earlier song of Thomas Moore. Instead of a windlass, the water was drawn up by means of a sweep. The sweep was a balanced pole mounted on a two-way swivel at the top of a stout post. Suspended from the long end of the pole by a chain or rope was the iron-bound bucket. At the short end of the pole the drawer of water manipulated it in such a way as to lower and raise the bucket and swing it to one side of the well. Such a sweep was once in operation at a spring on the Monte Vista property south of Oakland—installed probably for sentimental reasons and a liking for the picturesque and antique by an owner of the place a half century ago.

The old-time well found its way into local small boy folk lore. Sixty years ago a legend was current, probably concocted by some juvenile jokester, to the effect that the purity and excellence of the water in the well on court house grounds was in some mysterious way due to a Negro having fallen therein and drowned.



This was alleged to have happened at some remote past time. A bit of folk lore probably imported from Europe or elsewhere was an idea that on Hallowe'en when at midnight there was a full moon, a maid might go alone into the yard and walk backward to the well. She was promised the reward of the gift of being able to peer into her future. Looking down into the water she would see not her own reflection, but mirrored on the water would be the image of her future life mate. But it was at an hour when ghosts, witches, goblins, or other fearsome night prowlers might be expected to be abroad. To be effective the ritual had to be performed alone. It is likely few damsels had the courage to complete it.

Many of the early settlers found an abundance of waters in the innumerable fine springs flowing in many localities. Often they built their habitations near one. Some, settling on land otherwise suitable but with no spring, resorted to the dug well.

Some of the springs became widely-known, such as the Boiling Spring, south of Deer Park and Truesdell spring on Backbone Mountain. Another boiling spring near Oakland delivered a volume of water sufficient to supply the town during several years after the installation of the municipal water system in 1909.

During recent years legislators, national and state, have indicated growing concern about the nation's future water supply. A United States Senate committee on water resources reported that the nation must plan on

a huge scale to store water, generate new sources of supply and save water from contamination by keeping pure and free what we have. The estimated cost of the new work needed was \$12 billion, and for the anti-pollution of water resources \$42 billion. By 1980 one-third of the nation will be short of water. By 2001 one-half will be feeling the pinch.

In 1900 only 8% of the water supply was being used, in 1960 the people of the United States were using 60% and by 1975 the experts in this field say 88% will be used.

Interesting and disturbing companion statistics are Census Bureau projections which say it is probable the nation's population will go from the present 188 million to between 232 and 284 million by 1980. At the end of the century we will have between 295 and 420 million. This explosion of population has during recent years been discussed in many newspaper and magazine articles. Few doubt the soundness of the estimates of future rapid population growth and arm-in-arm with them a future probable very serious water shortage. The statistics quoted are such as to incite serious thought.

A manned moon rocket expedition will cost \$25 to \$40 billion. There are those who believe that a large portion of the staggering sums being expended by the Federal government for space flight would bring far greater benefits if applied to the making sure of the future water supply.

# Telephone History of Garrett County

*Outline of Talk by Russell Pancake  
January, 1952*

I have chosen for my subject a short history of the Telephone industry in Garrett County.

The first telephone line was built in 1900 by Mr. W. A. Smith, (Cecil Smith's father) and ran from Hoyes to Sang Run. At that time Mr. Smith was interested in General Stores at these locations.

This is indeed remarkable when one realizes Bell secured his patent in 1876, the A.T.&T. Co. was formed in 1884 and 16 years later, when the Bell had hardly gotten out of New Haven, Connecticut, we find a telephone line constructed and operating so far away from the field of the then telephone activity.

Mr. Smith realized the telephone's time saving qualities and its general good. And from this there emerged the Garrett County Telephone Co. The original company was composed of Mr. Smith, Mr. M. Mattingly of Hoyes, Mr. Joseph H. McCrobie, Oakland, Mr. C. V. Guard, Friendsville, Mr. William Miller, Accident, and Mr. J.N. Durst, New Germany.

This company spread its lines over all of Garrett County and also to Allegany County around Lonaconing, eastward into West Virginia, the Elk Garden and Mt. Storm area,

southward toward Davis and Thomas and westward toward Terra Alta and Cranvesville.

Of course, their lines were constructed to Oakland and I am told the switchboard was located in A.D. Naylor's store. One of the budding young operators of his day was Paul Naylor (a member of this club).

The C&P Co. started business in Oakland, July 31, 1906. The first switchboard was a one-position magneto and was located at 58 Second St. over Harned's Drug Store. This board was cut into service with 95 subscribers which were taken over from the Garrett County Company. After this take-over the first telephone actually installed by us was for Dr. Henry McComas in the same building.

The Garrett County telephone company continued to operate outside of Oakland until 1922 at which time we received from them an additional 42 subscribers.

In 1935 the telephone office was moved to the K. of P. Building, 61 Third St. and changed from magneto to common battery. The growth of telephone service has been steady through the years: 1910, 141 stations; 1920, 244 stations; 1930, 344 stations; 1940, 699 stations; January

31, 1952, 1,656 stations; 1968, 4,481 stations.

In another section of the County in the Kitzmiller-Blaine area, telephone service was established early in the century. The W. Va. Company established a one-position magneto office in Blaine in 1906. The first telephone installed was at R.A. Smith Coal & Coke Company. And in that year there were three on the Maryland side: the Browning House, First National Bank and Blaine Mercantile Company.

We acquired this property in 1920 and have operated it since. In 1938 this exchange was converted to dial; 1920, 24 stations; in 1930, 36 stations; in 1940, 58 stations; January 31, 1952, 280 stations; 1966, 452 stations.

In 1938 this company constructed toll circuits and placed dial equipment in service in the Friendsville and Accident areas. At Accident: 1940, 58; January 31, 1952, 146; 1966, 350. At Friendsville: 1940, 56; January 31, 1952, 202; 1966, 426.

In the seventy-five year period since Bell invented the telephone, not only have the facilities of the telephone expanded to cover practically all of the nation, but there has been a steady improvement in the equipment to furnish such service. You all have seen or remember the old magneto wall set with its batteries and crank.

Now in a short time we are about to make another improvement in our

service, that of dial service—1952.

If you would ask the average individual when dial telephones came into use, you would probably get the answer of the 1920s, for that is when they became general over the United States. Yet machine switching, as we call it, is as old as the telephone itself.

The Strowger Switch, which is the basis for all step-by-step switching, was invented and patented by A.B. Strowger in 1889, only 13 years after Bell invented the telephone. Strowger was unable to interest the Bell System in his invention at that time and turned to the large independents. One of the first dial offices is in Canton, Ohio, which is still in use. Strowger was unable to develop what we know today as a line finder, which, when up pick up your telephone finds the line you are on and gives you a dial tone which is the signal to start dialing. He used a common batter set similar in principle to the one today, and you called or gave your number to the operator. She had a keyboard similar to the old Burroughs Adding Machine, she set up the number you were calling on the keyboard and pressed the tripping key. This repeated the dial pulses into the equipment and removed both ends of the circuit from her position. This equipment did have a busy feature and automatic ringing, but it was impossible to get the operator back without hanging up and starting over.



# *An Evening of Music with Muriel and Mark Franc*

*Sponsored by Garrett County Historical Society  
August 16, 2008, 7:30 p.m.*

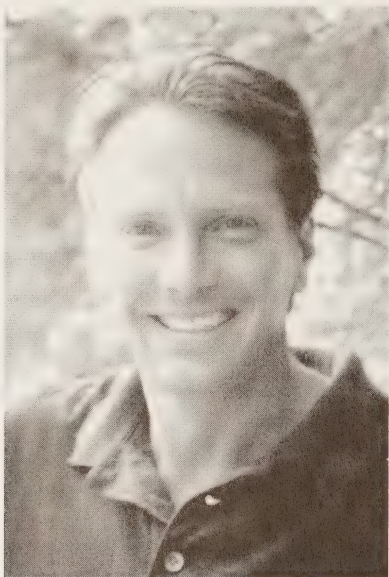
This event featured music written by Garrett County artists and many musical favorites of yesteryear and the World War II era.

Honorees of the evening were

Edith Brock and the Rev. John Grant. Both have been active with the Historical Society and its museum for over 50 years.



Edith Brock, retired librarian of the Ruth Enlow Library, being honored for a lifetime of service to the GCHS.



**Mark Franc**



**Muriel Franc**



**Rev. John Grant, retired Episcopal Minister, being honored for a lifetime of service to the GCHS.**



Photo of Saw Mill at Crellin? This photo was given to Junior Ferguson by his friend and classmate Edward Wilt. The Museum would appreciate any information about this photo—verification, name of saw mill, names of workers, etc.





# Accessions

*May 19, 2008 - August 8, 2008*

- "A Matter of Curiosity" 1921 - 1997, memoirs of Eugene S. Schlosnagle ..... *gift from Eugene Schlosnagle*
- Glass negative projector, photo enlarger.....*gifts from Dr. Brenda McCartney*
- "Collier's Photographic History of WWI" .*gift from Stephen and Gail Perrine*
- Maryland Theater bricks ..... *gifts from Chuck Nolan*
- Lorella Tower pictures, bookmark belonged to Rev. Henry Padgett Fletcher King, born 1820 .....*gifts from Shirley Tower Eisenberger*
- GCHS lifetime membership card signed by Charles Hoyer,  
 WWII poster, 1920s Methodist Episcopal church picture,  
 B&O RR Official List No. 30, Confluence & Oakland RR  
 information, and 1893 map of the C&O RR,  
 Gortner Store picture, 1978 Naylor's Grand Opening  
 metric converter .....*gifts from Lawrence Sherwood*
- Early Oakland picture .....*gift from Fannie Ward Hinebaugh Johnson*
- Deep Creek Lake postcard, Sines Cemetery picture,  
 John and Mabel Wilt information.....*gifts from Alice Eary*
- Joseph & Mary Keagy Beeghley, Joseph & Amelia Savage Recknor,  
 Lemuel and Mary Catherine Casteel Savage  
 genealogies ..... *gifts from Zeilla Cramer*
- Razor blade sharpener, owned by J. J. Lewis, grandfather of Paul Eary,  
 circa 1900 ..... *gift from Paul Eary*
- Meshach Browning information ..... *gift from Ivan Rowe*
- Harry Sincell home picture, 1873 "Deer Park Hotel soup bowl,  
 Mt. City Motor Co. "Jeep" postcard..... *gifts from Bob & Leanna Boal*
- 1942 Mickey's Boys Band picture, Jerry Freeland Railey, majorette, 1942  
 Mickey's Boys Band picture, Warren King Freeland,  
 Drum Major, pictures taken in front of the  
 Loch Lynn School ..... *gifts from Charles and Jerry Railey*
- Various old bottles, many with labels..... *gifts from Clifton Woods*
- Men's straws hats and vests ..... *gifts from Darvin Friend*
- B&O information .....*gifts from Bob Johnson*
- Cornish Manor silver plated wine goblets..... *gifts from Jerry Maynard*

- "Home Comfort" cookbook.....*gift from Alice Eary*
- "Farms North of Oakland" .....*gift from Ray I. McRobie*
- Rotary dial phone..... *gift from Nancy DeWitt*
- 1930s handmade coverlet, wedding present for Mildred  
and Bob Hoffman .....*gift from Sally Hoffman Durrant*
- Garrett County Fair poster, Maryland 350th poster. National  
Festival poster, National Road poster, from the estate of  
Margaret Hershberger Wagner .....*gifts from Ann McLister*
- French horn with case, Hastings Nebraska *Daily Tribune*  
announcing the end of WWII .....*gifts from James & Regina Burns*
- Mining auger, used at the Rock Oak Coal Company.*gift from Roger Tichinel*
- Two wooden canes, one used by Mary Humbird  
Offutt .....*gifts from Offutt and Joan Johnson*
- WWII fuel oil ration booklet, envelope, coupons with  
stamps.....*gifts from Fred Warther*
- WWI pictures of Bob Martin and Gene  
Tunney.....*gifts from Martha Martin Esman*
- Two Garrett County Indian trail maps .....*gifts from Shawn Nicklin*
- Pictures of Eleanor Hoult and  
J.P. Riley.....*gifts from St. Paul's United Methodist Church*
- 1986 B&O Excursion booklet, tickets and Railroad Heritage  
Festival badge.....*gifts from Barbara Humes*
- WWI Bible that belonged to H. Z. Rodeheaver .....*gift from Mike Henderson*
- Wood scene near the Weber home, Seelheim, Drane log cabin model,  
Zion Lutheran Church model .....*gifts from Jennie Smith Saunders*
- Coverlet that belonged to Ross Compton Durst,  
coverlet instructions, genealogy information  
and various postcards .....*gifts from Carol Phelps Conaway*
- Baltimore Sun* newspaper article on  
Henry Gassaway Davis..... *gift from Bruce Clark*
- 1977 Garrett County Bicentennial Calendar .....*gift from Charlotte Tracey*
- B&O Class EM picture, B&O Steam Finale .....*gifts from Clarence Rhodes*
- Manual seed sower ..... *gift from Harry Rounds*

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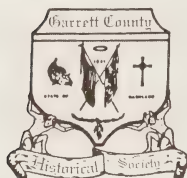
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# THE Glades Star

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THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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OAKLAND, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2008



Daniel E. Offutt, the first of the Offutt family line in Oakland.



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*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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- Web page with historical items:  
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# *The Offutt Family in Oakland, Md. A Remembrance*

*by Offutt and Joan Johnson, John A. Grant, Robert Boal  
With valuable assistance from: Daniel E. Offutt III, Frederic F.  
Chesley, Jr., and William O. Doub*

*Editor's note: This is the first of a two-part article about a family that has played an active role in Oakland's history for nearly 160 years, and in the country's since the late 17th century. The second installment will appear in the March 2009 issue.*

The recent naming of "Offutt Drive" at Garrett County Memorial Hospital has encouraged the Garrett County Historical Society to prepare this article reacquainting the community with the Offutt family. This family's involvement with the town of Oakland and surrounding areas has left a legacy that enriches our world today. How many of us, with some frequency, drive past the three Offutt houses on Second Street and admire them, sometimes with no inkling of their stories? And how many have gone to the emergency room at Garrett County Memorial, had surgery there, or taken comfort from its presence on the hill? However, since most of the Offutts are now absent from the town, only a few of our more senior townspeople recollect that family and their 160 years of involvement and support.

"Offutt Drive" off Memorial

Drive at the hospital's main entrance was designated in 2008 to acknowledge the generous contribution of \$1 million to the Hospital Foundation by Daniel E. Offutt III of Weston, Connecticut, who continues the family tradition of community service and support. Dan Offutt fondly remembers growing up in the county and playing on the former community picnic grounds where the hospital now stands, and he continues to feel strong ties to the people of the county and his many friends from high school.

In addition to his generous \$1 million donation, Dan Offutt has funded several different pieces of endoscopy equipment used in the hospital's surgical suite. Also, through his charitable foundation, he has made many generous donations to numerous other institutions in Garrett County including the Historical Society. "Recalling the precedent of giving set by my grandfather, father and my uncle," Dan says, "I just wanted to keep the tradition going. My family always believed that Oakland and Garrett County are unique and quite special and I want to, like my

predecessors, have some small part in keeping my home town that way.”

So let's explore the Offutt family and see who they were and where they came from and how they arrived in Oakland. We will review their contributions and then we will acquaint you with some of their descendants.

All the Offutts in America are descendants from colonist William Offutt, who is believed to have come from Great Britain in 1690 to Prince George's County, Maryland, at Upper Marlboro. As a planter of tobacco, he found favor with Lord Baltimore and acquired over 8,000 acres, some of which were along the Potomac River where Washington, D.C., is now located. Colonist William and wife Mary Brock had eleven children. Daniel Offutt's branch of this family descends from the sixth son of William Offutt I, named "Samuel" born in 1712. William Offutt I and his oldest sons, William II and James Offutt, were among the early planters to explore for additional farm lands farther up the Potomac River. They acquired land adjacent to Great Falls on the Potomac and established the community of "Offutt's Crossroads" in present day Montgomery County which later became Potomac, Maryland. Tradition says William and his two sons were the first white men to explore this part of Maryland. An island in the Potomac below Great Falls west of Cabin John Bridge is still known as Offutt Island and is now a state wildlife management area.

Over six generations, descendants of Samuel, kept moving through

Maryland westward to Virginia, now West Virginia, and eventually settled in Oldtown and Cumberland, Maryland. Dan's paternal grandfather, Daniel E. Offutt I, was born in Oldtown, Maryland. The birth of Daniel Edwin Offutt I started a lineage of Daniel E. Offutts in Oakland. The following will help you differentiate between them:

1. Daniel Edwin Offutt I, called "D.E.," was our donor's grandfather.

2. Daniel Edwin Offutt II, called "Ed," was our donor's father.

3. William R. Offutt, called "Will" (the lawyer) was Ed's brother and our donor's uncle.

4. Daniel Edward Offutt III, called "Dan," is our donor. Dan is nine (9) generations removed from colonist William Offirtt. (Note, Dan's middle name is "Edward" not "Edwin." However, to clarify which D.E. Offutt we are writing about, we identified Dan with a Roman Numeral III.)

So with that introduction, let us go back in time to the early 1800s.

**Daniel Edwin Offutt I "D.E."** (1835-1916): His parents were John Edwin Offutt (1809-1842) and Susan Matilda Lantz (1810-1905). John Edwin Offutt was six generations removed from the colonist/planter William Offutt I. John Edwin Offutt lived first in Charlestown, now in West Virginia, and later in Oldtown and died in Cumberland, Maryland in 1842. Their son Daniel Edwin Offutt I was born in Oldtown and in later years lived in Cumberland, Frostburg, and Bloomington in Garrett County,



where he started a mercantile business. He sold the Bloomington store to his brother, Thornton Offutt, and moved to Chicago, Illinois to search for business opportunities. When that venture did not work out, D.E. Offutt I returned to Maryland, and began to seek business opportunities in Oakland, Maryland about the time the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad reached Oakland in 1851.

The railroad's arrival sparked new economic opportunities in Oakland, and it is here we find D.E. Offutt I building a large mercantile business, and developing interests in coal mining and lumbering. His third Offutt Store building, now "Rudy's Clothing," still partially proclaims "Offutts Big Store" on the top of its north side. It was built in 1900 after a tragic fire in 1898 destroyed his second store building and six adjacent businesses. His lumber mill operations were along the Youghiogheny River on the northwestern outskirts of Oakland. The following report on D.E. Offutt I was taken from the 1949 "Oakland Centennial History" by Thekla Funderberg Weeks. D.E. Offutt I apparently started the lumber mill before moving his residence to Oakland. Thekla Weeks' article has been slightly amended and updated by the authors of this *Glades Star* article.

#### "OFFUTT'S STORE" AND OTHER ENTERPRISES

"In our records we find that the heavy timbers from Offutt's mill on the Youghiogheny River were used to repair the railroad bridge #88 and other bridges which were burned during General

W.E. Jones' Confederate Raid during the Civil War in 1862. Colonel A.W. Harman and confederate troopers were sent from Gormanias through Ryan's Glade to attack Oakland and conduct the raid. That mill was owned by a young man from Frostburg, Maryland, Daniel Edwin Offutt I.

Along with the saw mill, Mr. Offutt owned three general merchandise stores, one in Crellin, one in Rowlesburg, W.Va., and one located on Oak Street in Oakland. Later a two-story frame building was built on Second Street. It extended to Railroad Street. The store was a thoroughfare to and from the railroad station and to the Glades Hotel.

On July 12, 1898, seven buildings in downtown Oakland were destroyed by fire, including Offutt's second store, Harned's pharmacy and the *Mt. Democrat* newspaper building. Losses were estimated at \$30,000. Mr. Offutt at once purchased the general store business of his nephew, George O. Miller, located in the Sincell Building across the street. All goods salvaged from the fire were on me shelves the following morning ready for sale."

The townspeople of Oakland rallied and pulled together in both efforts to fight the fire and to accommodate the people and businesses who were burned out. At the telegraphed request of Oakland Mayor Jamison, both Cumberland and Piedmont firefighters and fire wagons were dispatched to assist Oakland with this se-

*(Continued on page 427)*

# Arabella Armstrong Seymore (1848-1933) Mrs. Daniel E. Offutt

by John A. Grant

*Forward: Since I'm one of the small number of people who can clearly remember Mrs. Offutt, I have been asked to write this section of "The Offutt Family."*

My recollection of Mrs. Offutt is from about 1928 until her death in 1933.

Early in 1928, before I started the first grade in elementary school, I would occasionally walk downtown in the morning with my childhood friend, Jimmy Hinebaugh. Our trip took us past the Offutt house on Second Street, and I would often see Mrs. Offutt directing someone who was washing her big Packard automobile. (I have since learned that she always referred to any automobile as a "Ford," which was the first automobile that Mr. Offutt ever owned.)

As time went along, and I grew older, I would often pass the house later in the day and see her ride out of the driveway in the big Packard automobile, driven by a man dressed in a chauffeur's uniform. The car would go up the street and pick up several of the Miller

sisters. The car would then go to Third Street and be off on some kind of an afternoon ride. (Years later I found afternoon rides would be to either Deep Creek Lake for some ice cream from one of the restaurants there, or else to Mt. Lake Park for tea with one of the Summer visitors to the Park.)

During the summer season, Mrs. Offutt would often have a party on the lawn at the rear of the house. Of course, I was still a little boy, but I found out that if I wandered down to her house very late on that particular afternoon, almost all of the guests would be gone and I could get a piece of cake from one of the women who worked for Mrs. Offutt.

The appearance of the Offutt house in those days was quite different from what it is now. The front porch went all the way across the front of the house and part way around the south side. This was the side that faced the small creek that runs through the middle of Oakland; there were a series of grass covered terraces which went down the small creek



**D.E. Offutt home on 2nd Street in Oakland, now the Stewart Funeral Home.**

that runs through the center of Oakland. The creek at this location was bounded by a low stone wall which directed it to a tunnel that ran beneath Second Street.

Of course, this long front porch was also the setting for tea parties during the summer afternoons when Mrs. Offutt wasn't riding in her Packard. As the years went past, I would often see Mrs. Offutt's college age grandchildren visiting her there on a summer afternoon.

For some reason, I remember very little about Mrs. Offutt's death in 1933. However, in later years I

became aware of the large Offutt memorial stone in the Oakland Cemetery; it marks where Mrs. Offutt and her husband are buried. However, to me there is a warmer and not so conspicuous memorial to that particular generation of the Offutt family in Oakland; it is on the north side of the building which has now become Rudy's Store. There, high on the brick wall are the words "Offutt's Big Store." It is a reminder of the first Offutt family in Oakland and the impact of successive generations of the family on Oakland and the surrounding community.

rious fire. A special Baltimore & Ohio train carried both men and equipment from Cumberland to Oakland in 1 hour 25 minutes including loading stops. Truly a remarkable effort given the distance and the date in time.

Following the 1898 fire, D.E. Offutt and Sons built their third

store in Oakland which is now Rudy's Clothing. The handsome three story brick building originally provided the town its third floor for the town's opera house. The store was described in 1900 as "not only the largest store in Western Maryland but a better store than can be found in cities



much larger than Oakland. It would be easier to enumerate the articles not sold than to list those that are. After 108 years, the sign proclaiming "Offutt's Big Store" is still partially visible on the top rear of the building's north side. Some new windows interrupt the wording of the sign.

The "Sons" of "D.E. Offutt and Sons" were Daniel Edwin Offutt II and Charles Ellwood Offutt. They managed all the D.E. Offutt I enterprises and assisted their father until his death in 1916. The youngest son, William Rennix Offutt, finished law school at the University of Virginia in 1898 with the idea that the family businesses would have legal counsel in the future.

D.E. Offutt I married Arabella Armstrong Seymour (1848-1933) of Moorefield, West Virginia, in 1869. They had [six] children: Horace Bliss (1870-1875 died at age 5 from a horse-related accident), Daniel Edwin II, Charles Ellwood, William Rennix, Nelle Tapscott, and Elizabeth. Their home is on the downtown side of the Post Office on Second Street, built about 1870. It was occupied by the family until 1934. It became the Bolden Funeral Home, and now the Stewart Funeral Home. It is the original building, but its appearance has been changed by a number of modifications and upgrades.

D.E. Offutt I started the civic-minded family tradition that Dan Offutt continues today. He served as the Burgess of Oakland (now titled "Mayor") in 1878 and again in 1884. When electricity was introduced,

D.E. Offutt I bought the first Edison electric light plant for the town's use. He also served on the Commission that built the present Courthouse and was a founder and director of the Garrett National Bank. D.E. and Arabella Offutt were the principal supporters of the Oakland Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterian church faded away shortly after Arabella's death in 1933 and today St. Matthew's Episcopal Church resides in that historic structure on the corner of Second and Liberty Streets. Also, they were most gracious and hospitable to frequent visitors who mistook their large home for a hotel. Late night visitors, finding no one at the entrance, simply found a vacant bedroom on their own and retired. Coming down for breakfast, they discovered their night was spent in a private home where they were most welcome. Arabella would say, "It happens all the time—we enjoy it and meet lovely people."

**Daniel E. Offutt II** "Ed" (1872-1943) took over all the family enterprises on the death of "D.E." Offutt I in 1916 and also served as the Garrett National Bank President. Ed's major contribution to the community was starting the popular Oakland Golf Course. Ed Offutt was a driving force in acquiring the golf course and getting construction under way. Much of the initial work was accomplished by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), one of President Roosevelt's New Deal employment relief projects. Like the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the WPA provided jobs, but the work-



**Edward Offutt home on 2nd Street in Oakland.**

ers lived at home, not in camps. His wife, Karen Mane Stenholm Offutt (1906-1995), known as Kay, taught school and was an antique collector. Their home was 228 Second Street, which has recently been authentically restored by B.J. and Krista Davisson. His brother and neighbor at 216 Second Street, William R. Offutt ("Will"), was a lawyer and two-term State's Attorney. He took over Ed's position as President of the Garrett National Bank. Will and Judge Neil C. Fraley were Trustees of the Trust Fund inherited by young Daniel E. Offutt III "Dan." The Offutt store was sold and in time, Postmaster Irvin R. Rudy, who managed the store for the interim owners, bought the building and the business. Today, the Rudy store remains in the Rudy family and is owned and beautifully managed by Mr. Irvin Rudy's grandson, Bob Rudy and his wife Amy.

**Daniel Edward Offutt III "Dan"** (1931-) enjoyed high school, building

sailboats in the garage and then, went on to the University of Maryland, and to serve in the U.S. Army. In time, he developed a successful career on Wall Street in New York City.

Dan Offutt fondly recalls his early days in Oakland. It might be that his mother's Scandinavian heritage, coupled with the Offutt attention to detail, brought out an early artistic inclination in Dan. At an early age he was perfecting detailed model airplanes from balsa wood and rice paper. In his teenage years he moved up to the garage and crated sailboats to ply the waters of Deep Creek Lake. These well built, but simple crafts were the beginnings of a life-long avocation of acquiring unique wooden and fiberglass sailboats and sailing them on Long Island Sound and adjoining waters. It is a passion he enjoys to this day.

Dan also enjoyed a successful career on Wall Street in New York City and eventually ran his own invest-

ment company. During those years he bought a scenic farm in suburban Weston, Connecticut, where he put his creative skills to renovating a picturesque barn into his home. In another barn he created several art studios that he rents to local artists and in one studio he reserved for himself, he applies creative inspiration to fabricate scrap into one-of-a-kind art work.

Dan Offutt truly enjoys seeing his efforts produce something useful or enjoyable. His focus is on improvement, whether it is his art, his investment strategies, or his charitable foundation. The Garrett County Memorial Hospital Foundation and the Garrett County Historical Society are so fortunate to have his assistance, both financially and advisory, in long-range planning to meet future needs of residents, neighbors, and recreating guests of Garrett County.

**Charles Ellwood Offutt "Ellwood"** (1875-1914) was the third son of D.E. Offutt I and Arabella Offutt. He died in Oakland at age 39 from complications resulting from appendicitis. Ellwood assisted his father and brother Ed Offutt with the management of the Offutt stores and other enterprises.

He was extremely well liked by both fellow merchants and customers and was a leader among local businessmen. Praised for his cordiality and his positive attitude, Ellwood was always modest, warm and pleasant, and a very popular member of our community.

Ellwood Offutt married Nanniene

Norton Thomason (1881-1959) from Chicago, Illinois, in 1907. Nanniene Norton Thomason was the daughter of Nelson Thomason (1839-1933), who was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and Nanniene Mason Norton Thomason (1852-1918). He enlisted in the US Army in the late 1850s and served in the Army of the Potomac. In or about 1860-61, he was reassigned with regular troopers to New Mexico and fought against Confederate Texas forces who captured much of the region including Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The Union forces recaptured the territory in March 1862 after the Battles of Apache Canyon and Glorieta Pass. Lieutenant Nelson Thomason rode side by side with Colonel "Kit" Carson for about three years in action against the Mescalero Apache and Navaho tribes (1862-1864). This successful action forced these tribes on to reservations. He retired from the western plains and military service in 1870 and came to Chicago and worked his way to a successful career in real estate brokerage services. He was an active member of the Masonic Lodge and in 1919 was elected Vice President of the Chicago Real Estate Board. Nelson Thomason was the son of the Honorable William Poindexter Thomason (1797-1882) and Charlotte Leonard (1807-1855). William Poindexter Thomason was a member of Congress and as a lawyer, he was an associate with Henry Clay, the U.S. Senator and noted statesman from Kentucky who held the Union together through numerous compromises prior to 1861.





**Monte Vista.**

Nanniene Norton Thomason was the daughter of Nanniene Mason Norton Thomason who was born in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1852. Due to the early death of her parents she was raised by her older sister, Emma, fifteen years her senior, who was married to Robert Tanuary. Emma Tanuary was a talented pianist and friend of Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910), the founder of the Christian Science religion. Ellwood and Nanniene began married life at Hazelhurst at the corner of 4th Street and Memorial Drive which is now the American Legion Post 71. Nanniene sold Hazelhurst around 1945 and moved to Monte Vista, her family's summer home, which had been purchased by her father, Nelson Thomason, around 1900.

Nanniene Thomason Offutt, like her husband, was a most cordial and congenial person. She was a skilled

historian with a remarkable memory for facts on the many subjects that she studied. The columns she wrote for local newspapers in Garrett County and for the *Townsfolk* society magazine in Chicago were rich in current events as well as recollections of 50 years ago.

Her fascination with the U.S. Presidents from George Washington through Dwight Eisenhower developed into a hobby of creating scrapbooks on the presidents and their families complete with watercolor sketches and doll forms dressed in authentic costumes of their day. The presidential scrapbooks were started to assist her grandchildren with school work, but she continued it as a passionate hobby that also included a scrapbook on Queen Victoria. Nanniene had a lovely personality and it was a treat to be in her company.

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# *100 Years Observed at Garrett County Courthouse*

*by John A. Grant*

On Saturday, October 11, 2008, a ceremony was held at the Garrett County Courthouse marking the 100th anniversary of the building. The anniversary ceremony was conducted by members of the Oakland Masonic Lodge outside of the building where the corner stone had been placed during the building process 101 years before on October 15, 1907. (Begun in 1907, the building was not completed for occupation until the year 1908.)

Following the Masonic ceremony, a second one was held inside the building in the court room, and represented one that took place when the building was completed and the keys were turned over to the County Commissioners.

The word "new" concerning the 1908 building acknowledges the existence of the "old" Courthouse



**The 1907 stone dedicated by the Masonic Lodge.**

two blocks away at Green and 4th Streets in Oakland. The question about its continued existence was already answered before the plans for the new one were completed. The Oakland High School had come into existence in rooms it shared with the elementary school on Center Street in Oakland. The number of students was small, but it was the first one in Garrett County and had a potential of a fairly large growth. So, as soon as possible in 1911, the Oakland High



School occupied the vacated building of the "old" Courthouse.

#### WITHIN THE CORNER STONE

*The Republican* newspaper of October 17, 1907, carries the following information about the cornerstone itself.

"Within the stone there was placed a copper box containing the following items. A copy of *The Republican* and other local papers; copies of the *Baltimore American* and *Sun*; a list of the workmen employed on the building; the name of the architect that designed the building; copies of the addresses of Hon. George L. Wellington, Judge Boyd and Capt. Jarboe; copies of the statements of the Garrett National and First National banks of Oakland as well as statements from the Kitzmiller and Frostburg banks; list of county officials and the local attorneys; copy of the by-laws of Oakland Lodge of Masons with a list of the members of the lodge; names of the school teachers and trustees in the Oakland schools; names of the members of the Courthouse Commission; coins presented by Miss Virginia DuVall, Capt. J.M. Jarboe, Mrs. Margret Sincell Durst and Benj. H. Sincell."

#### 2008 COURTROOM REDEDICATION CEREMONY

In 2008, a second ceremony took place in the Court Room of the new Courthouse. It was at 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 11, 2008. Citizens who took part in the ceremony were Jerry Bell, Garrett County government employee, who represented W. McCulloh Brown; Peggy Jamison, Garrett County employee, who

represented Judge R.R. Henderson; Commissioner Denny Glotfelty, who represented County Commissioner A. Clyde Smith; Rita Watson, Register of Wills staff, who represented Mr. Charles M. Miller; Carol Craver, Garrett County government employee. Representing Frederick A. Thayer; Thomas Peddicord and Gilmore Hamill; Tom Matthews, Register of Wills staff, Representing Chief Judge A. Hunter Boyd; the Rev. John Grant, member of Garrett County Historical Society, representing Rev. E. Manges.

#### SINCE 2008

By the year 1950, business and population of Garrett County had grown to the point where the existing Courthouse was unable to handle all county business efficiently. The only solution was to construct two new buildings at the Courthouse site; accordingly a new building was constructed directly in front of the existing building. This new addition to the site consisted of a jail, sheriff's office, a garage for the sheriff's patrol cars, and space for a radio dispatcher to the sheriff's patrol and local fire departments and other emergency facilities. A second one was constructed behind the existing Courthouse where the former jail and sheriff's residence had been. This building handled a remainder of offices needed at the Courthouse site for efficient use of county offices.

Also, certain county departments, such as the Roads Department and others, were moved to their own location elsewhere in Garrett County.

# *Suddenly, Everyone Was Skiing*

*by John A. Grant*



**Sometime in the 1940s, the State Park system installed a rope-tow for skiers at New Germany State Park.**

It's hard to say what prompted the lopsurge of interest in the sport of skiing in this area; we've always had hills covered with snow available for skiing. Perhaps, it was determination to "make the most" out of the winter weather in this area and not let winter dictate the use of spare time. Anyhow, suddenly children and adults were turning snowy days into fun filled days out-of-doors, coasting down hills on skis.

There were a multitude of open fields in this area that supplied excellent places to put on a pair skis and go gliding downhill; the only drawback was the walk back uphill

for another "run."

However, several places in Garrett County offered an alternative to the uphill walk; they had a rope "tow" that took a skier back uphill again. I recall three business slopes that had a rope tow and seemed to endure longer than others: they were Gunter Town and Happy Hills on Rt. #40, and Howard Naylor's slope on #219 about five miles north of Oakland. Unfortunately, all three were open to the melting sunshine which came within a day or two following a terrific snowstorm and made "slush" out of any snow that had accumulated on them.



**Happy Hills on U.S. 40 had a rope tow for skiers in the 1940s.**

Of course, all three functioned back in the late 1930s and 1940s. They attracted skiing enthusiasts from cities to the east of Garrett County such as Washington and Baltimore. The B&O. Railroad used to put on a special coach for skiing passengers on the National Limited from Washington on Friday evenings, and one for returning skiing passengers Sunday evening on the regular 6:30 p.m. train to Washington.

Today, there are no traces of the ski slopes that used to be on Rt. 40

and the one north of Oakland has only the tall pole that had the pulley wheel for the "rope tow" to mark where it had once existed.

However, skiing is still a popular winter sport in Garrett County. The builders of the Wisp on Deep Creek Lake at McHenry chose a north-facing hillside where the winter sun doesn't hit it and melt any snow that comes naturally or is generated by snow-making machines. Thus, at the Wisp, skiing can be a reality all during the winter season.



**Howard Naylor had a rope tow attached to this lone tree on Rt. 219 uphill from Sand Flat.**



# Bond Saw Mill



**Bond Mill. 1—N.U. Bond, Bond Lumber Co. Manager; 2—Josephus Howell, Mill Superintendent; 3—Thomas Paugh.**

In the September issue of the *Glades Star* we tentatively identified this mill as the one at Crellin and asked readers for any information they might have about it and the men pictured. We have since learned that the mill is, in fact, the one at Bond and, further, the identities of three of the men. They are:

1. N.U. Bond, Manager of the DuBois and Bond Brothers Lumber Co.,

2. Josephus Howell, Mill Superintendent, and

3. Thompson Paugh, mill hand.

Can readers identify any of the other men pictured?

The town of Bond was located near the northern end of what is now the Savage River Reservoir just down-stream from the confluence

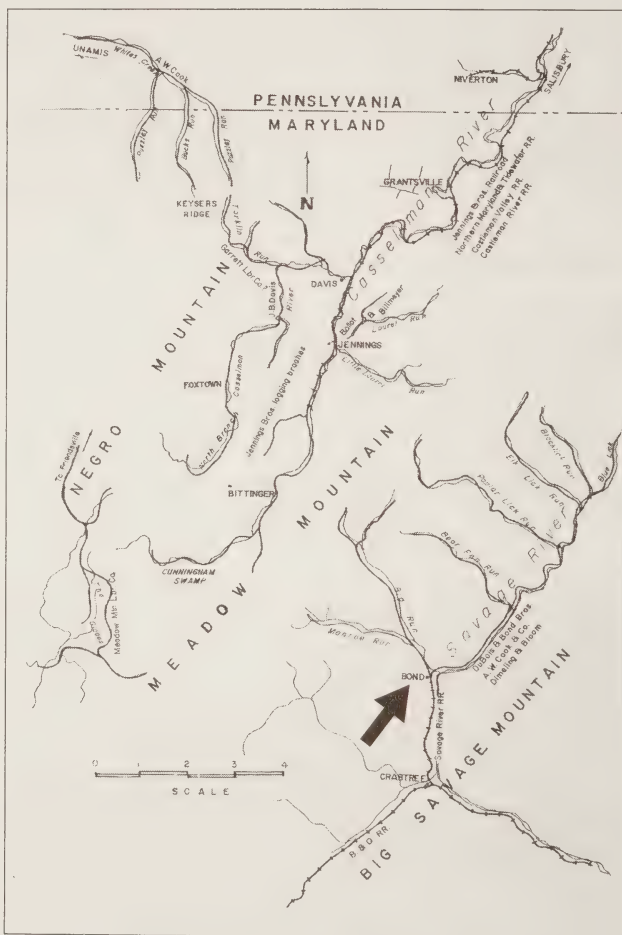
of Big Run and Monroe Run. The town was started in 1901 when five Bond brothers and John Dubois, all from western Pennsylvania, built a standard-gage railroad to connect the 10,000 acres of timber land they had just purchased with the B&O Railroad five miles away. According to an article in a 1958 issue of the *Glades Star* by Mary Bond Weber, the first building in the little town housed company offices, the general store, and the post office. Weber goes on to say that there followed "... a boarding house, which was efficiently run, made a welcome, even if temporary, home for employees with no place to house their families. Individual dwellings were started as soon as possible, and demand was so urgent that many of them were used before the last nail

was driven. When the families were comfortably housed, a non-denominational church was built, followed by a public school."

Weber continues, "While 40 buildings were springing up like mushrooms, another crew was busy with construction on the big mill at a point on Savage River where the Monroe Run and Big Run joined it. The mill was equipped with a big band saw capable of turning out 80 thousand feet of lumber in a day. It also had a circular saw which gave an additional output of 20 thousand feet. Aside from the Al lumber there was an enormous supply of railroad ties, mine props, lath, shingle, tanbark, saw dust and pulpwood. The strength of the Savage River was harnessed. The company made its own electricity. This was not only used for lumber purposes but each individual building was wired and properly

equipped for electrical uses."

In 1910 Anthony Wane Cook, who owned eight thousand acres on Meadow Mountain, bought the Bond mill and town. He later sold the mill, town and standing timber to Dimling and Bloom. The town and mill are long gone now, although some concrete pillars of the mill remain, and the site is part of Big Run State Park in the Savage River State Forest.



The logging railroads of the Casselman and Savage River valleys. Bond Saw Mill is show by the arrow.

# *Two More Pictures to Identify*

The Museum staff asks reader's help in identifying the location and any information on the house and factory in these photos. The house, we believe, is in the Oakland/Mtn. Lake Park area.





# Old Oakland

by Mary Ann Brislin

*Ed. note. Mrs. Brislin is the granddaughter of Mrs. Charles F. White who lived on Liberty Street in Oakland. Mrs. White was an ardent "scrap book" keeper, and the following are some items which Mrs. Brislin picked out of one of the books passed down to her from her grandmother's estate.*

*This particular article is by Thomas J. Brandt and was written for The Journal (an early county newspaper published in Oakland); Mr. Brandt spent his early life in Garrett County and was living in Dundee, Michigan, when he wrote this material. Mrs. White copied it from an old scrapbook started in 1903 and belonging to Mrs. Hinebaugh; scraps of the article pasted in the book are as follows.*

On the north east corner of Third and Oak Streets was Mr. King's Tavern later owned by Mr. Baker who had bought the Michaels' house.

Crossing the stream on a foot plank if not on foot, or fording if driving or on horseback, we soon came to D. A. Matthews' place of business located between the big road and the B&O railroad, which had lately been completed. A side track from the railroad extended along the road some 8 to 10 rods and Mr. Matthews' store and residence all in a one story frame building was located between the side track and main line of the railroad. Mr. Matthews' store and residence all in a one story frame building was located between the side track and main

line of the railroad. Mr. Matthews was one of the pioneer merchants and kept a general store as required at that time. A platform 12 or 14 feet wide in front of his store answered the double purpose of a porch and a place to unload local freight.

On the southwest corner of Alder Street and Third Street stood the residence and tavern of John Michaels'. His wife was quite deaf and it was very difficult to make her hear in conversation. Mr. Michaels later sold this place to Mr. Baker who continued the tavern business for some years. Mr. Baker's boys, Lloyd and Lucius, were the dudes of the town and were quite musical with flute and violin. Lloyd Baker was the pioneer tinner of Oakland. His shop was located diagonally across the corner from the tavern.

In a building that stood between 3rd and 4th Sts. [And] on the north side of Alder St. was the first school in Oakland; Mr. Penn, an Englishman, was the teacher. He wore broadcloth clothes cut claw hammer style and a tall plug hat. He was about 6 feet tall and slim build and his legs seemed to be altogether too short for a man of his height, especially when his plug hat was added to his altitude. But he had that severe scholarly look that proclaimed his vocation.

Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose were the next to instruct the youth of Oakland in that same school room; later a room was procured on the south side of the

deep cut (B&O railroad) but no regular school house was then built.

The Post Office was in Mr. Matthews' place of business, and letters were folded with the blank side out and in such a way that a wafer, sold for the purpose, would seal them and the address written on the back of them. The postage was 3 cents, paid when mailed or when delivered and marked "paid" or "collect" with pen and ink as the case might be. Part of the postage could be paid when mailed and the balance when delivered.

Mrs. White added some notes of her own to her copy of Thomas Brandt's article.

The house built by Peter Baker now belongs to Boyle—1933.

D.R. Brandt's residence, then

the largest in Oakland, was just east of the Baker house. Brandt caught the "western fever," sold his house to a Hinebaugh who later sold it to Ezekial Totten. I well remember the house; it was torn down some years ago and George Miller built a storehouse there. Now (Sept., 1933) it is Teets' Garage.

*Mrs. Mary Ann Brislin adds the following:*

These final notes were added by my grandmother, Stella Jarboe White, apparently in 1933. They were written in pencil and the paper has yellowed so some of the words, such as "pug hat," were guesses on my part! However, I do remember hearing stories about what a wonderful scrapbook Mrs. Hinebaugh had made.

## ***Historical Society Member Garrett County's Most Beautiful***

This fall Maxine Broadwater of Grantsville joined two other active Historical Society members Bob Shaffer and George "Junior" Ferguson as winner of the annual "Garrett County's Most Beautiful Contest."



**Anna Maxine Broadwater being honored by the Garrett County Commissioners.**

# *The Spirit of Christmas in Early Garrett County Schools*

*by Alice Eary and Jean Grose*

*At Christmas the lessons and teaching of Christ's life should receive emphasis.* (Quote from *Celebration of Special Days, Maryland School Bulletin*, Vol. VI, Nov. 1924, No. 1, 28)

The celebration of special holidays in the early schools was mandatory. The book referenced above goes on to say: "Making gifts is in accord with the spirit of the occasion, but care should be taken to impress upon the minds of pupils that the greatest joy to be attained in observing the day lies in giving rather than receiving."

In an era of no television, little means of communication, and limited transportation, Christmas time in the early schools was very special. It provided an opportunity for the teacher, children and parents (who made costumes) to develop their creativity and enjoy some social activity. Many of the schools celebrated by having a program for families and friends. As Sylvia (Kitzmiller) Beckman who attended church and school at Lynndale School (1933-38) reminisced she stated: "At Christmas we always had a special program and the school would be packed. Every kid in the school had a part." Hours were spent practicing for special programs. Sometimes the portrayal of the Biblical account of Christmas was enacted, complete with costumes for Mary, Joseph, kings, shepherds and angels.

## COMPTON SCHOOL

(*THE REPUBLICAN*, DEC. 20, 1900):

Compton School gave an entertainment at their school house, which was, I think, one of the most successful ones of the kind I have witnessed for some time. The pupils are all quite young, this being the first winter in school for some of them. They all performed their parts without faltering or prompting, even to the youngest. The exercises consisted of readings, recitations, dialogues, tableaux, instrumental and vocal music. Miss Lottie Swauger, the teacher, was assisted with her singing by some of her young friends, of whom we must make mention. Miss Lizzie Meyers, soprano, Mr. Charles Meyers with his strong, well modulated bass, were duly appreciated, while the organette of Mr. F. L. Otto was enjoyed by the small folks, and the violin played by Mr. Hare gave old and young amusement. Signed: QUIVIVE.

## OAK HILL

(*THE REPUBLICAN*, SEPT. 29, 1877):

At Oak Hill [School] on Christmas evening there was a large attendance, the point of principal interest being a huge Christmas Tree on which a great deal of time and money had been expended. Miss Frazee, the public school teacher, planned the affair and conducted it to a very successful termination. She



was seconded in her efforts by all the citizens of the school district, with one or two exceptions. Mr. Abraham Turney, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Schlossnagle (probably trustees) and others gave a hardy support and we feel assured that to see the bright eyes of the children as they received their presents more than repaid them. None were forgotten. The worthy school mistress herself was the recipient of many presents, among other things from the top most bough a fine looking toy on which had been bestowed much time no doubt.

Most decorations, including a freshly cut tree, were provided by nature. Decorations for the tree were hand made, and colorful paper chains commonly adorned the school room. In addition to the chains, children created paper ornaments to hang on the tree. They sometimes used crepe-paper garlands to grace the room. Tree decorations did not ordinarily include lights because candles were too much of a fire risk. However, candles were sometimes used in the windows. Kathryn Speicher, referring to Armistead, said: "At Christmas time we decorated the room with paper chains, pictures of poinsettias, and whatever we could make."

**HUTTON (JAN 4, 1923):**

The senior room of the school building was most appropriately decorated for the occasion; a very neat spruce tree, laden with beautiful ornaments, graced a corner of the stage, while a waxen taper glowed forth from every window, giving fitting expression of the true light that came into the world over

nineteen hundred years ago—an anniversary that is celebrated the world over. There were also many other symbols of the happy Yuletide in evidence, all of which, no doubt, breathed unconsciously a breath of the Christmas spirit into the hearts of the vast audience that was assembled to witness the execution of that which I have endeavored to describe.

**HUTTON (THE REPUBLICAN, JAN. 15, 1925):**

"... pupils of the Hutton school rendered a very prettily prepared program before a large and appreciative audience. At the close of the exercises the instructors treated the pupils to candies, popcorn and oranges." The president of the Lang-Horton Tanning Co., Mr. J. Harry Lang of New York, had provided two large pails of choice candies for the students. (Unfortunately, the tannery was soon after partially destroyed by fire and was not rebuilt.)

Just as today, the "real" Santa frequently made an appearance at the end of the program with a treat for all who "had been good."

**PROMISED LAND AS DESCRIBED BY MRS.  
DOROTHY SANDERS NEMITH.**

At Christmas time the students would go into the woods to gather crowsfoot to make wreaths and princess pine to make ropes which they would string criss-cross at the ceiling. Usually there was a Christmas program at the school. Each student had to say a poem and sing a song. My father often played Santa Claus as part of the Christmas program. He would pound on the door, the teacher would open it, and there would be Santa

saying, "Ho! Ho! Ho!" and jumping around a little bit.... Santa usually gave each child a bag of candy and oranges and a little gift.

Sometimes when it was very cold, my Uncle Fred (Sanders) would hitch up his horses to the bobsled and provide free transportation to school. Aunt Jessie would put a couple of quilts in the sled, and my cousins would snuggle down under them. Then, Uncle Fred would drive by our house and pick us up. It was so cozy in the sled, and the countryside looked so beautiful. The sleigh bells on the team of horses added to our enjoyment. All this while uncle Fred sat up front wearing his big red, white, and black mackinaw. ("Promised Land School," *The Glades Star*, Vol. 9, No. 1, Mar. 1999, 28-30.)

**HUTTON (*THE REPUBLICAN*, JAN. 4, 1923):**

At the conclusion of the very splendid program Santa Claus appeared upon the scene, much to the delight of all, greeting the children with a loud shout and hurrah, and soon after distributing the candies and oranges which the good teachers had provided as a treat for their scholars.

At the expiration of his visit he spoke very kindly to the children, enquiring where they resided and promising to visit them on Christmas eve. We hope that he did, awarding them loyally for their faithfulness towards duty throughout the past year.

Music has always been an important part of Christmas.

**GLENDALE (*THE REPUBLICAN*, JAN. 6, 1927, 4):**

"Just before the close of the

school for the holidays (1926) Miss Custer's pupils rendered a program composed of entertaining numbers with the Christmas spirit predominant. The beautifully decorated tree was enjoyed immensely by the little tots of the school."

**McCABE:**

When asked about entertainments Carl gave this very picturesque account of the Christmas celebration at McCabe School. In the early 1930s the teacher was making preparations for the Christmas celebration when someone suggested that a musical instrument, preferably a piano or an organ, would greatly enhance the music. It seemed like an impossible idea, but Christmas is a magic time when miracles do occur, and after considering the possibilities, someone remembered that a particular home in the community had an organ. "Would it be possible to borrow that organ?" The request was granted and plans were made to move the organ from the home to the school. With much effort they loaded it into the open trunk on the back of the teacher's car, and, because the roads were drifted, they transported it to the McCabe school through the fields. The wonderful organ music along with the children's voices reminded everyone of the magic of Christmas.

**HUTTON (*THE REPUBLICAN*, JAN. 4, 1923):**

A beautiful Christmas program was very successfully rendered on Thursday evening, December 21st, in the Hutton public school building. Nearly every scholar participated and with few ex-

ceptions acquitted themselves most creditably. The affair was managed by Miss Eva Falkenstein, the principal of the school, who is deserving and is receiving much praise, especially for the artistic effect that was produced by the various scenes and recitals on the program. The most pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment was the rendition of a very ancient and beautiful Christmas hymn entitled "Silent Night, Holy Night" by a number of the school children under the very excellent and capable leadership of Miss Falkenstein, the instructor.

In the 1920s the sale of Christmas seals to aid the Red Cross was a popular activity in the schools. In 1921 the 84 children of the two-teacher Hutton school disposed of six hundred Red Cross Christmas seals. (*The Republican*, December 22, 1921)

Schools sometimes worked together as Spring Glade and Armistead, less than two miles apart, did in 1926.

"The pupils of Armistead and Spring Glade Schools presented a Christmas program, which was well attended and enjoyed by all."

**JOHNSON (*THE REPUBLICAN*, DEC. 27, 1880):**

Dec. 27, 1880. It is seldom we see an article in your paper from our place. Please give me space for one. On Christmas eve Johnson School gave us an entertainment, which was one of the best literary

treats we have had the pleasure of enjoying.

Declamations were delivered by Johnnie Crow, Misses A. McKenzie, Mary Bromstock, Maggie Clark, Anna Wimer, Barbara McKenzie, Carrie Crow, Norah McKenzie, Alice McKenzie, Maggie Durst, and Messrs. Moses McKenzie, Ed. McKenzie, Thos. Morris, Chas. Wimer, Harvey Wimer, Ed. Fazenbaker and Wilford Wimer. Selections were read by Messrs. Arthur Murphy and Jas. McKenzie. A dialogue by James McKenzie, Susie McKenzie and Maggie Durst, and another by seven boys; then a newspaper was read by Miss Maggie Durst, all of which were well rendered, and interspersed with beautiful songs, reflected much credit upon both teacher and performers. Addresses were made by Messrs. Arthur Murphy and Perry Wimer; then an appeal followed from Mr. Lee, teacher, to the parents, to send their children to school. On Mr. Wimer's proposition the school wished Mr. Lee a merry Christmas, and tendered a vote of thanks to him for his faithfulness. The merry crowd then sang "Beulah Land," and dispersed, all feeling glad and rejoicing.

The school is being taught by Mr. Ephraim Lee, of Accident....

Not all schools had an evening program.

**GRANTSVILLE (*THE REPUBLICAN*, DEC. 30, 1915):**

Schools have closed here for a jolly holiday of two weeks, Prof. Sanner insisting upon the pupils



all leaving their books at the school so as to be entirely free from their studies. In Miss Miller's room, the primary department held a most entertaining Christmas program on Friday afternoon, consisting of recitations, songs, a Mother Goose drill, a pretty play entitled "King Winter," and old Santa, himself, came in and distributed gifts to the children. There was a pretty Christmas tree in one corner of the room to add to the Yuletide scene. Despite the inclement weather a large audience was present. A daintily trimmed Christmas tree was also in Miss Keller's room and the whole school was decorated in

Christmas green.

Through the years Christmas has been and still is a special time—a time to love, a time to rejoice, and a time to remember.

*Heap on more wood!*

*The wind is chill!*

*But let it whistle as it will*

*We'll keep our merry Christmas still.*

(By Scott. From: *Material for the Celebration of Special Days, Maryland School Bulletin*, Vol. VI, Nov. 1924, No. 1, 29)

For more info on the schools consult *Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear*.

# Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear

by Alice Eary and Jean Grose

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# Meshach Browning Family Reunion

*Editor's Note: This account of a family reunion comes from the September 17, 1903, issue of the Garrett Journal, an early county newspaper. The author is unknown.*

I cannot refrain from giving an imperfect and short sketch of one of the most spirited and unique fishing outings ever planned in this community. It was a reunion of the immediate relatives and friends of the Browning family in a week's fishing and hunting expedition on the banks of the wild and historic Cheat River. The Brownings, nine in number, eight grandsons and one great-grandson of Meshach Browning the pioneer hunter and nimrod of Western Maryland (whose autobiography, entitled "Forty-four years of the Life of a Hunter," has a place on the choice shelf of the libraries of those who are fond of outdoor sports), all of whom inherited his love of nature, the chase, hunt and camp fires, and was never so happy as when roaming over field, forest or along the streams. It was my privilege to be in company with this distinguished author and hunter when his photograph was taken for the frontispiece of his work, and as I listened to some of his thrilling narratives of some of his desperate hand-to-hand encounters, the forty and odd years spent in wilderness of solitude and danger, then aged, bent and battered by the storm

of forty and odd years he reminded me of some mighty giant taking a rest after the fury of a prolonged and desperate battle.

The morning was bright and young when a large two-horse wagon was loaded with provision, and six covered wagons drawn by twelve handsome horses, furnished transportation for the merry crowd. The middle wagon was well arranged with seats and rolling curtains, in which was the renowned Browning Orchestra, six brothers with their fine violins and who started the march by playing "Arkansas Traveler." Six violins in the hands of six brothers, as artistic players as ever drew a bow.

It was 1:00 p.m. when the point of destination was reached. Here two large tents were pitched, one a music and assembly hall and a dining room, much enjoyed by a hungry but happy company.

After dinner the large covered wagons and the smaller tents were arranged as sleeping apartments. All was now done and the arrangements completed for a week's stay. Soon the evening sun began to sink behind the gigantic mountains and the evening shadows stretched far and wide along the beautiful little valley. The rippling waters of the old river seemed to babble a welcome that was caught by all.

For a whole week the camp fires burned and every evening around the blazing torches and six brothers with their violins, from which came the sweet music that swelled the breezes of the mountain crags and delighted the crowds of people that gathered in from Rowlesburg, Aurora and the surrounding country. On Thursday evening the crowd was unusually large, when it was proposed that a concert be given on the water. Accordingly the boats were all filled and rowed to the middle of the river and anchored and the concert there lasted for an hour or more. On Friday evening Stephen, John F. and Abel Browning were rowed out to the middle of the river, where they played "Kelly on

the Lake," the pathetic story of the history of the piece having been told, prepared those seated on the shore for its best appreciation and made it hard for them to restrain the tears that were wont to flow.

On Saturday morning the tents were folded and the party, like the Arabs, "stole silently away." Resting at Armore, the beautiful country home of William Browning, the memories which cluster around the dead embers of the camp fires fall over me as softly and sweetly as a young girl's first dream of love; with the unceasing music of the waters of the Cheat; with the mesmeric grandeur and mellow splendors enveloping everything far, recall the lines of the poet.

## *Smoke Detector Fire Alarm System*

An enthusiastic patron of our museum, Pamela W. Ritter of Fairfield, Conn., Recently donated \$100 to "start the ball rolling" for a proper fire alarm system to protect our valuable collection of artifacts. She would like to "challenge" other supporters to send donations

designated for this purpose.

The Board of Directors would certainly be pleased if this could be accomplished. Please send any donations to Fire Alarm Fund, Garrett County Museum, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550.



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| 1. "The Glades of Garrett"—F. Robinson                             | 12. "Maybe You'll Be There"     |
| 2. "Some Things I Adore"—F. Robinson<br>Words by Katherine Nethkin | 13. "Sentimental Journey"       |
| 3. "The Birthday Song"—F. Robinson                                 | 14. "I'll Be Seeing You"        |
| 4. "The Deer Park Waltz"—Katherine<br>Rowan Rashe                  | 15. "Your Eyes Have Told Me So" |
| 5. Toccata Opus 7—Bessie Ward<br>Hinebaugh                         | 16. "If I Could Tell You"       |
| 6. "White Cliffs of Dover"   | 17. "Down In the Forest"        |
| 7. "Moon Light Serenade"   | 18. "To Where You Are"          |
| 8. "How Deep is the Ocean"   | 19. "Midnight Blue"             |
| 9. "All The Things You Are"  | 20. "Reminiscing"               |
| 10. "The Way You Look Tonight"                                     | 21. "Embraceable You"           |
| 11. "These Foolish Things"   | 22. "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes"   |
|  | 23. "Time After Time"           |
|  | 24. "Maria"                     |
|  | 25. "Danny Boy"                 |

This CD-R was recorded and produced by Walt Copeland, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Oakland, MD. Your support of this ministry and the Garrett County Historical Society is appreciated.

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Connie Nicholson	John and Joan Browning	
J. Thiel and Patricia Sullivan		

## *Memorials*

### **Beth Friend**

Wayne and Donna Callis

### **James and Ezekial Totten**

Ralph Totten

### **Hollie Grimm**

Elmer Grimm Jr.

### **John Patrick**

Ronald and Patricia DeTorre

Jim and Shirley Munford

### **Dr. James H. Feaster Jr.**

Mary Virginia Jones

Bob and Leanna Boal

### **Martha Ashby Rinehart**

John Rinehart

### **Nordeck Shaffer**

Mary Virginia Jones

Jerry and Delores Moyer

### **Don Glottelty**

Bob and Leanna Boal

# Grantsville Accessions

*March 2008 - August 2008*

- Uniform Button of William Clay Stanton, Corporal,  
Co. G, 313th Infantry, World War I; Two Star Bar Pin;  
& Three Star Bar Pin ..... *on loan from Sara Jarrett*
- Blue & White Steak Plate from the Thistle Inn, the Original Aaron Beachy  
Homestead.....*gift from Jean Maust Durst*
- Hat, Uniform, Dipper, Scouting Equipment, Campaign Buttons,  
Advertising Fan, 1944 Box, Democratic Delegate 1911,  
Democratic Delegate 1926 Convention,  
Army Good Conduct Medal .....*gift from Sara Jarrett*
- Antique Boxes, People's Drug Store, University of MD 1921—  
Dance Book, Annual Military Ball Dance Book 1921,  
Twelve Delegate & Souvenir Buttons, Letter &  
Superintendent Pin 1915 Garrett County Fair Assoc.;  
& Twelve Checks—First State Bank, First National,  
William T. Stanton, The Maples .....*gift from Sara Jarrett*
- First National Bank Deposit Tickets; Citizens National Bank, Frostburg,  
MD 1898; William T. Stanton's Checkbook 1893-1894 & Check  
Ledger 1901-1902; William T. Stanton's Check Stub; First National  
Bank Checkbook.....*gift from Sara Jarrett*
- George Washington's Farewell Address Article Honorary Award given to  
Marvin Wamick in 1932..... *gift from Marvin Warnick, Sr.*
- Hair Clippers, 1800s Pocketbook, Sarah Layman Durst's Straight Edge  
Razor & Box, Flute, Raw Tea, 1800s One Cup Tea Brewer, Rabbit  
Bank ..... *gift from Lillian S. Guthrie*
- B52 Pilot's Flight Crew Checklist Book from Crash in 1964,  
Twelve Photographs, Air Force Memorial  
Dedication .....*gift from Mabel Carol Warnick*
- Mennonite Church Plate, Flowers & Leaves Plate, Ironstone Meat Platter,  
Hand Carved Trivet, Two Needle Threaders, Brass Napkin Rings, Ten  
Glass Sherbet Dishes, Antique Pitcher.....*gift from Earleena Tressler*
- China Closet ..... *gift from Cindy Newman*
- De LaVal Cream Separator ..... *gift from Mary Ann Brenneman*
- 1939 Grantsville High School Glass Picture ..... *gift from Dorothy George*
- 1939 Framed Grantsville High School Picture with  
Names Labeled.....*gift from Carl F. Broadwater*



CC Camp in Salisbury, PA, Picture, Wooden Clamp, Cleats, Apex Polishing Powder, Iron Pliers ..... *gift from Al Anderson*  
 Bevans Estate Victoria Hotel Ice Cream Dipper ..... *gift from Dave Truly*

## Oakland Accessions

*August 8, 2008 - November 10, 2008*

"B&O Steam Finale," B&O Class Em-1 picture ... *gifts from Clarence Rhodes*  
 Half Price Store sale flyers, telephone history of  
 Garrett County ..... *gifts from Linda Freyman*  
 "The Practical Home Physician Book, Dr. Kilmer's Standard Herbal  
 Remedies postcard..... *given in memory of Julia A. Lawton who was a  
 midwife in Oakland in the early 1900s by Julia Ann Aronhalt Bennett*  
 "Portrait of Liberty," 1971 and 1993 Know Your County  
 booklets ..... *gifts from the League of Women Voters of Garrett County*  
 Needlework, Yam and Crochet books from the 1940s and '50s, from the  
 Josie Weimer Estate..... *gifts from Martha Welch*  
 Oakland Centennial Program..... *gift from Betty Dark*  
 "Letters Home" 1943-1946, WWII letters home from  
 Bob Sincell..... *gifts from Sincell Publishing Company*  
 "Little Lark" and "To the Dandelion", sheet music written by Bessie Ward  
 Hinebaugh..... *given in memory of Mrs. Hinebaugh by Muriel Robinson Franc*  
 1910-1912 Bondtown sawmill picture ..... *gift from Edward Wilt*  
 WWII German Funeral Wreath banner..... *gift from Joseph Albert Peck*  
 Deep Creek Lake, Mt. City Band, and Pleasant Valley Church  
 pictures ..... *gifts from Mrs. Margaret Mowbray*  
 1954 Garrett County booklet..... *gift from Henrietta Lease*  
 Wooden School, Maryland Genealogical Society bulletins, 1994 Writer's  
 Market Book, 1935 Presbyterian Church history, 1937 St. Peter's  
 Catholic Church history..... *gifts from Alice Eary*  
 WWI Recruitment picture, Oakland Barbershop Quartet  
 picture..... *gifts from Robert Ault*  
 Commercial Hotel picture..... *gift from Bob Boal*  
 B&O envelopes, 1965 Official Guide, Freight Station Directory,  
 1899-1947 telegraphers list, 1974 train orders, 1974 Clearance  
 Form A, and 1970 C&O-B&O Agents Manual... *gifts from Von Johnson*

- Grandmother clock made from Regulator clock from the 1880s  
 from The Garrett National Bank, 1890 General Crook book,  
 K of P ceremonial sword of Charlies White, two American flags,  
 photo of swinging bridge across the Youghiogheny  
 River .....*gifts from Mary Ann Brislin*
- 1934,35,36 Kitzmiller High School track & field badges,  
 WWII US Navy badge, WWII American Campaign badge.....*given in  
 memory of Frank Adam Burrell by his sister, Laura Belle Harvey*
- WWII Army dress jacket, Eisenhower jacket and trousers, shoes  
 and foxhole shovel.....*gifts from Gerard Maynard*
- 1917-1918 Garrett County School Census Records ..... *anonymous gift*
- Meadow Mountain timber pictures .....*gifts from Charles "Bud" Railey*
- 30 TB GR CO curved stone, Bridgeville square brick, James M. Porter  
 Pittsburgh brick, unknown item with a pulley (items found under the  
 lake at Point View Inn on Deep Creek Lake, tobacco cutter,  
 small baseball bat, gas light fixture, (items found under the  
 District Court Building.....*gifts from Bill McClanahan*
- Petrified wood found in the Youghiogheny River in  
 Crellin..... *gift from Robert Uphold*
- B&O Stock Certificate ..... *loan from E. Sean Fridley*
- Plowing the fields in Loch Lynn (Pea Cannery picture),  
 Oakland Business School ad, New Modern  
 Bookkeeping book .....*gifts from Betty Ann DeBerry*
- Bolden Funeral Home memorial brochures .....*gifts from Wilda Sanders*
- Friend genealogy, Custer family genealogy, Garrett County Community  
 Disaster Plan, Clement Engle, Sr. genealogy, Durst family picture,  
 Durst home picture, Durst coverlet information and picture,  
 coverlet sign (from Ross Durst) .....*gifts from Carol Conaway*
- Mt. Zion, Sharpless Mine pick .....*gifts from Roger Tichnel*
- Kempton pictures..... *gifts from Charles McIntire*
- Louis Goldstein information, story, and two Louie Goldstein "God bless  
 you all real good" gold coins.....*gifts from John D. Watkins*
- Muddy Creek Falls, Swallow Falls, Deep Creek Lake and  
 Deep Creek Lake sign postcards ..... *gifts from Melvin G. Kahl*
- Old shuttles, Garrett County Centennial  
 Glasses .....*gifts from Hopwood and Karen Wooddell*
- Dan's Rock postcard, and other postcards that belonged to  
 Leo J. Rasche .....*gifts from Joan Browning*

- 1907 Board of Education information for teachers, public school report, Fairview School Registry, Wilson School book loan information, 1899 *Republicans*, 1899 *Mountain News* (Mtn. Lake Park newspapers), 5th Reader that belonged to Rosella Harvey .....*gifts from the Fairview Church Ladies Aid*
- Pen, ink bottle, ink box with ink, wax sealer box of pen points, pins used before paperclips from the Garrett County Courthouse .....*gifts from Sondra Buckel, Clerk of the Court*
- Dr. James Feaster picture .....*gift from Doris Feaster*
- Amish sewing kit, stove lifter, A Sketch of History of the McCarty Family, McCarty family history, family tree, 1858 and 1872 Slaubaugh deeds courses and distance descriptions, and Birdseye View of Oakland information on Taddeus Fowler (painter of the picture) .....*gifts from Dr. Lawrence Sherwood*
- Friend, Welch family framed pictures, two old dog licenses, Atlas Jar bank, blood letting kit, 1907 MLP School Souvenir booklet, two 1938 Oakland High School *Acorns*, *Mtn. Democrat* newspaper, leather Garrett National Bank deposit envelope, 1918 Camp Meade WWI booklet, soil survey pamphlet, Mercy Chapel history .....*gifts from William Norris Welch*
- D.M. Dixon & Son coat hanger .....*gifts from Freda Pennington*
- 1805 Bible, Oakland Fire Dept. saxophone music, music booklet with Oakland advertising, Walter Yoder P&H store picture, DeCorsey Bolden, Delegate, paper, 1978-79 Vacation Guide, Maryland maps, Garrett County maps, 1989 Whitewater brochures, Deep Creek Lake brochure, old Museum brochures. Spruce Forest Brochure .....*gifts from Ivan and Mabel Rowe*
- Cramer genealogy .....*gifts from Nancy Cramer*
- John Cuppy Cuppet-Cuppert genealogy, 1765 Cobbet-Cuppet Lineage in America .....*gifts from T. Jeff Cuppett*
- Deep Creek Lake Wisp Mountain picture, 1952 Westvaco strike information, "Remembering Fats" 1989 Deep Creek Lake article .....*gifts from Mary Foley*
- Six artifacts from the 88 Bridge—Fort Alice Museum Deer Park Hotel porch picture .....*gifts from Don Callis*
- The American Soldier and 20 American Soldier pictures 1781-1963 .....*gifts from The Nearly New Shop*



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Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

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Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550

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## Christmas Gift Suggestions

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Available again at the Museum:

### Strange and Unusual True Stories of Garrett County

\$8.00 +  
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MARCH 2009



Sixteen-foot snowdrift closes Sand Flat Road. See story page 459.



## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.deepcreekhospitality.com](http://www.deepcreekhospitality.com)  
[www.deepcreektimes.com](http://www.deepcreektimes.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *Sixteen-Foot Snowdrift*

*by John A. Grant*



**The first automobile to pass through the snowdrift.**

**D**riving over Sand Flat Road between Route 219 and Deer Park it's hard to imagine this road being completely blocked by a snowdrift sixteen feet deep; yet it happened back during the winter of 1936 - 1937. It's hard to believe such a thing could happen, but it did during a winter snowstorm that only comes once in every four or five decades. As a matter of fact, it may not happen again for a

lifetime, because the Roads Commission has systematically cut back the tops of high banks on existing roads and tries not to have any deep cuts with high banks that can cause deep drifts on new roads.

Back in February 1937 Garrett County had a very heavy snowstorm; following the snowfall it got very windy. Snow in an open field above the Sand Flat to Deer Park road was

light and fluffy, so the wind easily blew it out of the field, over a bank and blocked the nearby roadway with a 16-foot snowdrift.

"Old Timers" said such a snow drift was not unusual in that location. They didn't try to dig through it; they simply took down the barbed wire fence in this location and drove through the frozen field till they got to the end of the snow drift; then drove back onto the highway again. However, in 1937 the Roads Department didn't consider driving through an open field a proper solution to the problem of getting past the big snow drift; they elected to open the highway again by digging through the big drift. It wasn't an easy job; plows were useless in a 16-foot deep drift. The only solution in 1937 was to dig it open by hand as quickly as possible. Since the Roads Department had opened all of the other roads in the area during the week, they decided to dig through the snow drift the following Sunday.

I'm not sure how my Father learned that the work was to be done on that particular Sunday, but we went out to see the snow drift opened for traffic. We rode down Rt. 219 to the Sand Flat Road and turned toward Deer Park. After traveling several miles, my father parked the automobile and we walked through an open field to the spot where men were digging out the snow and loading it into big trucks at the Deer Park end of the big snow drift. These trucks were on the highway, and the men had already opened up about 10 feet of it. Meanwhile, other men were

working near the top of the snowdrift, and casting snow into another truck parked below them.

After watching for several minutes, we could see a pattern to how work was being done. One truck would back into the snow drift for about 50 feet where the road had already been cut open. A small "front-end loader" would scoop up snow and dump it into the bed of the truck until it was full. Meanwhile, a large group of men were up on the bank with hand shovels casting snow into a second truck on the highway below them. When both trucks were filled they would both pull out at the same time and dump snow in a nearby field.

Meanwhile, hand work was beginning on the Sand Flat end of the big snow drift. It didn't seem like any time had passed until a narrow roadway was opened through the drift, and passenger cars were able get through it; then plows came through and widened the highway cut. Pretty soon a good wide road was open so that cars could pass through the drift without the danger of getting bogged down in the snow. After watching for a few more minutes, we walked back to where my dad had parked our car. He drove through the drift toward Deer Park and took another road back to Oakland.

I understand that within a month or so a construction crew went out and removed tons of earth at the top of the road cut where the drift had formed; they widened it so that the road has never been blocked snow since that time.



# *The Offutt Family in Oakland, Md. A Remembrance*

*by Offutt and Joan Johnson, John A. Grant, Robert Boal*

*With valuable assistance from: Daniel E. Offutt III, Frederic F. Chesley, Jr., and William O. Doub*

*(Editor's note: This is the second part of the Offutt-family story. The first part appeared in the December 2008 edition of the Glades Star. )*

Ellwood and Nanniene Offutt had the following three children:

Douglas Seymour Offutt (1908-1990) worked as an investment counselor in Los Angeles, California. Following previous marriages, he married Moyra Wentworth Browne in 1940. Their daughter, Diane Douglas Offutt married Julian Blunt and they live in Hereford, England.

Nelson Thomason Offutt (1910-1978) was president of Swope, Offutt, Kamtman and Pitts, a local insurance agency in Baltimore, Maryland. Nelson married Agnes DeBarth Edelen in 1936. Their children are Nelson Offutt, Jr. "Chip"; twins Charles Ellwood Offutt II and Anne Edelen Offutt; and Agnes DeBarth Offutt.

Nelle Thornton Offutt (1912-1997) married Frederic Francis Chesley of Washington, D.C., who was an executive for General Motors in the Insurance Division. They lived in Towson, Maryland; Cleveland, Ohio; and Syracuse, New York. Their



**William Rennix Offutt**

children are: Frederic F. Chesley, Jr, who was an electrical engineer for Raytheon Company. He married Barbara Elizabeth Squibb of Wheeling, West Virginia. Fred Jr. and Barbara lived in Natick, Massachusetts, near Boston and have retired to Mtn. Lake Park, Maryland. Nanniene Norton Chesley who married Donald Hanison Thomas, lives in Sarasota, Florida, and they have two children.

William Rennix Offutt "Will" (1878-1959): the youngest son of



**Home of William R. Offutt on Second Street in Oakland.**

D.E. Offutt I, received his early education in Garrett County private and public schools and at St. John's College in Annapolis. He received a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Virginia in 1899, where he and future Maryland Governor William Preston Lane were good friends and classmates. Will's roommate at the University of Virginia was Millard Tydings, who served many terms as US Senator from Maryland. Will Offutt practiced law in Garrett County and in West Virginia as well as in the United States courts. He was Mayor of Oakland and served two terms as State's Attorney for Garrett County (1920-1927). In his private law practice he represented the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for many years.

In an effort to assist state forest and parks conservation efforts in October 1940, he oversaw the transfer of title of what is now Swallow Falls State

Park from the Grand Lodge of the Masonic Orders of West Virginia and Pennsylvania to the State of Maryland for use of the Department of Forestry. This 503.76 acre property consisted of two tracts known as the "Swallow Falls Tract and the "Falls of Muddy Creek" is one of the most popular scenic state parks in Maryland.

Will Offutt took his brother Ed's place as president and director of the Garrett National Bank of Oakland and his law offices were located on the second floor of the Garrett National Bank Building (now the Garrett County Historical Society). Will Offutt, on behalf of Garrett National Bank and separately as an individual, along with his wife, Mary, contributed substantially to the beginning of the Garrett Memorial Hospital in 1947. He rarely left Oakland and Garrett County. In his opinion, "other places just did not measure up to the qualities of his hometown and county. So

why would you leave Garrett County." Mary Eleanor Offutt, on the other hand, loved to travel, and so she did. Will and Mary's house at 216 Second Street has been magnificently restored by Dr. Patricia and Ken Gotch. It is presently the home of Jack and Libby Riley, who have continued the restoration work.

Will Offutt was instrumental in helping many new businesses get started in and around Oakland. He stayed informed and updated by doing marketing research with his old and dear friends at Hub Swartzentruber's Harness Shop, Leighton Brothers Garage and Hinebaugh's Lunch Counter. He was frequently accompanied by his toy Boston bull terrier

"Topsey." There were many "Topseys" over the years, all Boston bull dogs except one.

In 1904 William Rennix Offutt married Mary Eleanor Humbird (1879-1966) of Cumberland, daughter of J. Wilson and Fannie Elder Humbird and granddaughter of Jacob Humbird, who was a most prominent and successful civil engineer in his time. Jacob Humbird built portions of the Chesapeake & Ohio and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroads and the C&O Canal. His railroad and tunnel work extended into Pennsylvania and West Virginia and into the state of



**Mary Eleanor Humbird, 1899.**

Wisconsin and also to Brazil in South America. Jacob also founded "Cumberland, Wisconsin" at the terminus of one of his railroad projects which today is known for its popular "Hot Pepper Festival."

J. Wilson Humbird, the father of Mary Humbird Offutt was the president of numerous companies related to railroad and mining development and the development of portions of South Cumberland real estate. Mary Humbird Offutt had considerable wealth of her own and was ever present behind the scenes assisting Will in his endeavors as well as provid-





**William R. Offutt with wife, Mary, and daughters Fannabelle and Mary Jane, 1909.**

ing encouragement and educational support for the advancement of her children and grandchildren.

William Rennix and Mary Humbird Offutt had the following four children:

**Fannabelle Seymour Offutt (1907-1994)** was named for both her grandmothers (Fannie Elder Humbird and Arabella Seymour Offutt). Fannabelle Offutt married a prominent Cumberland attorney, Albert A. Doub. They had two children: a son, William Offutt Doub, who married Mary Graham Boggs. He is also an attorney who served as a member of the Maryland Public Service Commission appointed by Governors Agnew and Mandel and he also served on the US Atomic Energy Commission appointed by Presidents Nixon, Ford, the first President Bush and President Reagan. They have two

sons, Joseph Peyton Doub and Albert Alvin Doub II who married Elyssa Ramsey from Staten Island, New York, and they have two children, William Calvert Doub and Elizabeth Peyton Doub. They all live on Doub Farms in Keedysville, Maryland. A daughter, Mary Peyton Doub Thompson, followed a career in social work. She has a daughter, Kimberly Jean Thompson and son, Richard Allen Thompson. Richard has two children, Chad Andrew Thompson and Courtney Amber Thompson.

**Mary Jane Offutt (1908-1981)** married J. Vincent Burton, an Executive at Allegany Ballistic Laboratory. They lived in Romney, West Virginia, where Mary Jane taught in the West Virginia School for the Deaf. They had one daughter, Mary Humbird Burton Pownall, who taught in and retired from the Baltimore County Public School System. She married Richard Aaron Pownall from Springfield, West Virginia and they resided in Jarrettsville, Maryland. Richard, a Viet Nam veteran, also retired from the Baltimore County School System.

**Helen Humbird Offutt (1912-2004)** married William Howard Johnson, a Penn State forester from Hazelton, PA., who began his career at the Swallow Falls Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and retired as Superintendent of Maryland State

Parks in Annapolis. They lived in Oakland, Cumberland and Sevema Park, Maryland. They had two sons. First, William Rennix Offutt Johnson, who also worked in natural resources conservation as Assistant Director for Maryland's Program Open Space and as the Park Naturalist for Patapsco Valley State Park. Offutt Johnson and his wife Joan Lown Johnson live in Oakland and are among the authors of this article. They have one daughter, Jennifer Lynn Johnson Martin, who married Lt. Lawrence Dean Martin, USN. They have two children, Joshua William Martin and Bethany Grace Martin, and live in League City, Texas, where Larry is an aerospace engineer at the Johnson Space Center. The Johnsons' second son, Humbird Lynn Johnson, served in the US Army in Germany and state-side. He was a sergeant in Military Police investigations. In civilian life he spent his career in free-lance photography and retail photography sales. He also worked in boat repair in the Annapolis marine trade market. He is retired and lives in Salisbury, Maryland, where he pursues his interest in photography. He has three sons, Charles Burton Drew Johnson of Kansas City, Kansas, William Howard Johnson II of Greensboro, North Carolina, and Daniel Jeffery Offutt Johnson of Dallas, Texas.



**Helen H. Offutt (right) with cousin Caroline**

**Jacob Wilson Humbird Offutt (1914-1973)** was the only son of Will and Mary. He lived in Falls Church, Virginia, and was an executive with B.F. Goodrich Tire and Rubber Company in Washington, D. C. He married Helen Gosnell of Arlington, Virginia and they had two children: a daughter, Fannabelle Offutt, who married Dennis Burke, an attorney. She has three children: Robert Douglas Dean, Caroline Stacy Dean, and Richard Dean. They live in Fairfax, Virginia; and a son, Humbird Rennix Offutt, who owns and manages Offutt Plumbing Company in Sterling, Virginia. He married Maureen Sasser from Southern Maryland. They have a son, Rennix Humbird, and a daugh-

ter Mary Chappell. Rennix and Maureen Offutt have a second home on Lake Shore Drive at Deep Creek Lake.

D.E. Offutt I and Arabella Offutt who had two daughters who were their fifth and sixth children as follows:

**Nell Tapscott Offutt (1879-1910)** was unmarried and died at age 31 from a ruptured appendix. She was rushed by train to Baltimore for an emergency operation and died within one hour of reaching the hospital.

**Elizabeth Offutt Polk (1886-1967)** briefly married Joseph Tasker Polk. Her home was in Baltimore, Maryland. They had no children.

So that's the way it was with the Offutt family from Garrett County and the town of Oakland. They, along with many other early families contributed and continue to contribute to the unique qualities of this special place, Garrett County, in Mountain Maryland. It is a treat to look back and remember those who went before us and to attempt to follow their example to build upon the community we enjoy today. As Will Offutt so clearly summed it up, "I haven't seen any place yet that can measure up to what we have right here in Garrett County. Why would you leave?"

Although not involved in Oakland, Maryland, two other very distant Offutt relatives from other branches of the family have achieved notable status and are of interest to



**Jacob Wilson Humbird Offutt.**

report on in this article:

1. Denton Offutt, a trader from Kentucky, who in 1831 gave Abraham Lincoln his first job in building and running a flatboat from New Salem, Illinois, to New Orleans. Lincoln later worked for Offutt in his store in New Salem, where he acquired the nickname "Honest Abe."

2. Jarvis J. Offutt, First Lieutenant, a U.S. Army flyer in WWI with the British Royal Air Force, was killed on a mission. Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska, is named for him. That base became Headquarters for the Strategic Air Command (SAC) during the Cold War. You may recall that a "SAC" B-52 bomber crashed in Garrett County in deep snow during a severe blizzard and wind storm on January 13, 1964.



# *Lonesome Locomotive*

*by John A. Grant*

As youngsters we were fascinated by the "Dinky Track." It was the standard gage railroad built in 1923 for the construction of Deep Creek Lake and the Power House. It ran from Oakland northward, to the Youghiogheny River and followed it to the Swallow Falls area where it split and became two branches. One branch followed the river for a short distance to the site of the power house for the hydro-electric generators. The other branch followed the general direction of Deep Creek stream until it came to the place where the dam for Deep Creek Lake was being built.

Parts of this railroad track followed the general path of a lumber railroad that was built back in the 1890. Then, it left the lumber railroad path and formed a new path to the Yough River and subsequently to the two construction sites for the power house and impounding dam.

(As a matter of general interest old lumber railroads, or their paths, could be found all over Garrett County during the 1920s when the Deep Creek Lake and the Power House were built.)

The "Dinky Track" from Oakland was a source of adventure for a whole group of us Oakland boys during early 1930s. During the summer we would pack up bed rolls and take an "overnight hike" to a place about three miles from Oakland, where there was a spring and an excellent spot

for camping. During the winter time it was a great route for a skiing hike and a thrilling run down Hall's Hill.

Once in a while, during this same time period, a Sunday afternoon ride in the family car would end at the Power House for Deep Creek Lake. It was always a source of fascination for my brothers and myself for two reasons: first there was the "hum" of the big turbines as they generated electricity for the transmission lines which left the power house, and, secondly, we got to climb on the Dinky engine since the locomotive was parked on a railroad siding near the Power House.

We would always go into the power house first to stand and look at the big electric generators as they pumped electric into the power lines that went off to the state of Pennsylvania. Then, we would walk over to the locomotive and climb into the cab and pretend that we were actually running it down the tracks of a railroad.

Too soon it was time to go home, and we would walk back to the car for the return trip to Oakland, leaving the locomotive sitting there all alone. On one of these trips someone remarked that the little engine looked lonesome sitting there on the track all by itself. From that time onward, my brothers and myself always referred it as the "Lonesome Locomotive."

## CHINESE-JAPANESE WAR

The situation for the locomotive and "Dinky Tracks" remained



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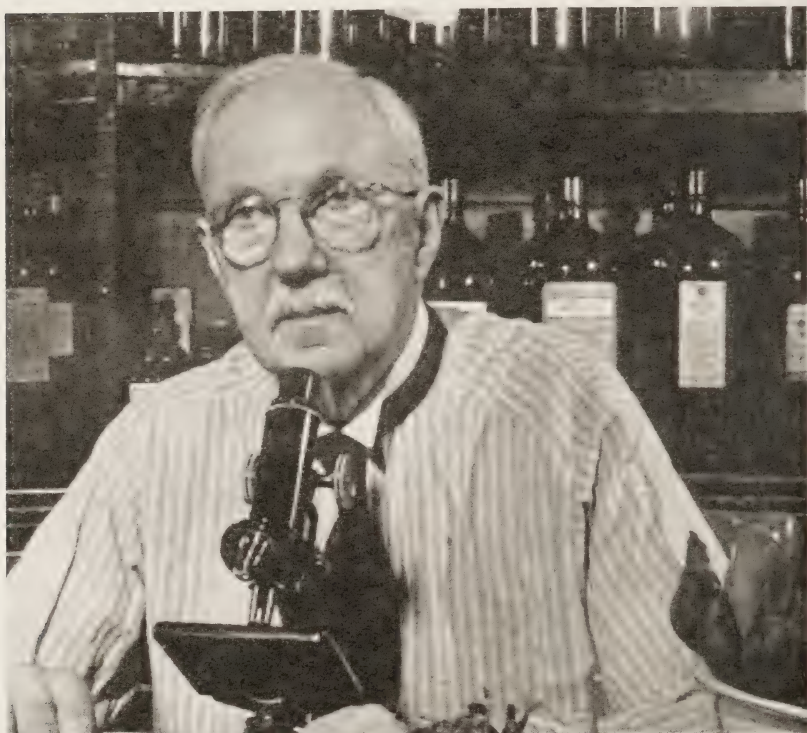
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Winter (Jan. - Apr.) Thurs. - Sat., 11 am - 4 pm



# Dr. Joseph E. Harned

by Mary I. Love, with additions by his niece Helen Harned Kahl



Dr. Harned at work in his pharmacy.

*Editor Note: This story comes from the museum's files. Its author, Mary Love, is a longtime resident of Garrett County and a historian in her own right. She has written many histories of the county, including Once Upon a Mountain Top, a delightful story of Mountain Lake Park, which is available for purchase at the museum.*

Oakland, Maryland, knows Dr. Joseph E. Harned as a successful and proficient druggist, but the country knows him as a distinguished

botanist and scientist who had done perhaps as much as any one man to awaken a personal interest in and love for flowers, which means a lifelong appreciation for them. His story, by reason of what he has accomplished in both fields, is an inspiring one. Born at a farm on Sanders Lane near Oakland, December 1, 1870, he was an only child of John and Annie B. (Davis) Harned, both natives of Harnedsville, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. The former was born



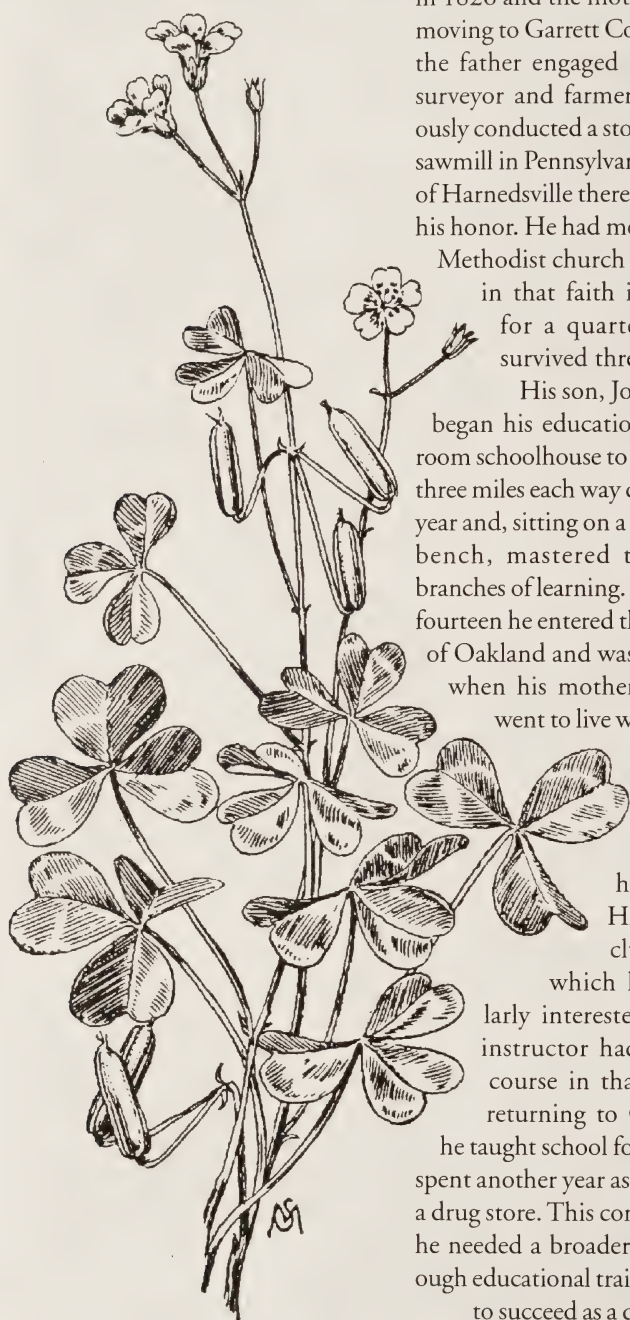
This view southward of Second St. about 1915 shows Dr. Harned's Oakland Pharmacy at the telephone pole on the left and shaded by the middle set of large awnings. The building at the right margin of the photo now houses the Historical Society's Museum.

# WILD FLOWERS OF THE ALLEGHANIES



JOSEPH E. HARNED





LADY'S SORREL

in 1826 and the mother in 1831. Removing to Garrett County, Maryland, the father engaged in business as a surveyor and farmer. He had previously conducted a store, tannery and a sawmill in Pennsylvania, and the town of Harnedsville there was so named in his honor. He had membership in the Methodist church and passed away in that faith in 1912, having for a quarter of a century survived three wives.

His son, Joseph E. Harned, began his education in a little one room schoolhouse to which he walked three miles each way during the school year and, sitting on a backless wooden bench, mastered the elementary branches of learning. When a youth of fourteen he entered the public schools of Oakland and was attending there when his mother died. He then went to live with an uncle who was a Methodist preacher at McKeesport and entered a high school there. His curriculum included botany, in which he was particularly interested, although his instructor had never taken a course in that science. After returning to Garrett County, he taught school for a year and then spent another year as an apprentice in a drug store. This convinced him that he needed a broader and more thorough educational training if he wished to succeed as a druggist. He then enrolled as a student in the



Oakland Pharmacy.

OAKLAND, MD.  
JOSEPH E. HARNED, Manager.

R

Oakland Pharmacy.

OAKLAND, MD.  
JOSEPH E. HARNED, Manager.

R

For *Baby Sam*

Oakland Pharmacy.

OAKLAND, MD.  
JOSEPH E. HARNED, Manager.

R

For *Mrs. H.H.**Papain Gr. XXX*  
*Papain Pers Gr. XXV*  
*1/4 lb. each*  
*1/2 lb. after each*No. *37183*

Date

M. D.

Mountain Lake Park in 1893. The following year he purchased a drug business in Oakland where he has since remained, being the sole owner of the Oakland Pharmacy (now Proudfoot's Pharmacy). In the conduct of his

business he has maintained the highest standards and he has been chosen the Honorary President of the Maryland Pharmaceutical Association.

It is his love of wild flowers and his research into this field that has made the name of Dr. Harned a familiar one in scientific circles throughout America. During the blossoming season

there is always a bowl of wild flowers on the counter of his store, placed there to awaken and stimulate the interest of his patrons in this form of natural beauty. Writing in this connection the *Baltimore Sunday Sun* said: "From early spring until snow flies they are practically sure of being there, according to the season. Some are nature's original of flowers that have become familiar through cultivation in gardens, but most of them have never left their home in the wilds. The wayside and the deep woods, the glades, fields and swamps

Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science where he completed his Pharmaceutical courses, having greatly benefited from the instruction of the erudite Professor John Maisch, a descendant of the great botanist John Linnaeus and who reawakened Dr. Harned in his love of wildflowers. His initial interest in the wildflowers of the Allegheny Mountains was cultivated by his mother, and this also stimulated his interest in medicinal plants. Having completed his Pharmaceutical course, Dr. Harned opened a drug store in

of the countryside yield a fascinating and continuous array of blossoms for this unique flower show.... Dr. Harned has discovered at least four varieties which no other botanist has listed. One of these, the swamp *Clintonia*, is a member of the lily family. The Doctor came upon it in a swamp located in what once must have been a gigantic pine forest about a mile from the village of Cranesville. The leather-leaved goldenrod, which appears anywhere from four to six weeks earlier than other varieties, was located on a botanizing trip near Cumberland with the late Professor George M. Perdew. The mountain thoroughwort, which he called "*E. Harnedii* Steele N.S.P. resembles the familiar "*Joe Pye*" weed but differs radically in Appalachian flora and [he] is recognized as an authority by botanists and plant experts in all parts of the country. More than one thousand wild flowers are listed together with their histories and habits, the legends which have grown up around them and in some cases a verse or two of poetry they have inspired.

On September 12, 1894, Dr. Harned married Emma M. Bauer, daughter of John and Matilda Bauer, and of this marriage was born a son and a daughter—Harold H. and Annie Louise. The son, who is associated with his father in the drug business, married Naomi Marquis and has one child, Helen Louise. Annie Louise Harned became the wife of Hubert P. Burdette of Mount Airy, Maryland, and they have one child, Kenneth. The Doctor is interested in commu-

nity welfare to the extent of cooperating in a movement for the public good and has served as a member of the Oakland City Council. He belongs to the Rotary Club, of which he is a past President, and he has membership in the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. He belongs to the Maryland Pharmaceutical Association of which he has served as Honorary President and he has long been an active and faithful member of the Methodist Church where for nearly a half a century he has been teacher of a class of ladies in the Sunday School—a number of them having been in the class from their early girlhood days. He has been elected to fellowship in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, is a member of the Botanical Society of America, the Pennsylvania Academy of Science, the American Nature Association and the Wild Flower Preservation Society. All of these membership connections of various kinds indicate the nature and breadth of his interests along lines which call forth all that is highest and best in mankind—a love of knowledge, of beauty, of development and of right living. He is a man of humility, notwithstanding what he has accomplished, a man of broad charity in his opinions and his relations with his fellowmen and it is said that his fellow citizens are very proud of this man who knows so much about the mysteries of the Appalachian valleys and mountains and who is better informed concerning the flora of the Alleghenies than any other man who lives within their purple shadows.

# *The Rotary Plow*

*by John A. Grant*

During the late 1920s the local State Roads Commission was supplied with a big rotary snow plow on caterpillar treads. It was to be used on certain parts of the Garrett County state roads which were subject to drifting snow beyond the capacity of the ordinary snow plows. This machine was larger than the regular plow mounted on the front of a big truck; it was enormous. It had a huge "V" shaped plow with big fans mounted on each side of the "V". The operator sat in a little cab mounted high on the machine so that the operator could see over the top of the plow. The plow

was big and the fan blades were so powerful that they could throw snow at least 20 or 30 feet beyond where it was working. Because of these big powerful rotating fan blades the machine was called "The Rotary Plow."

There were all kinds of stories about the fan blades throwing snow. One of them was that when the plow



**The rotary plow at work on the 16-foot snowdrift.**

was put into use just outside of Oakland it broke out the windows in half a dozen houses near the road. As a result it was only used where there were not any houses too near the road which could have windows broken out.

I think I first remember the rotary plow about 1928; this may have been about the year when it was put into



service in Garrett County. (Perhaps there were other ones put into service in other parts of the County.) It was kept at the State Roads garage in the eastern part of the town of Oakland, and put into service the first week in December. As previously described it was mounted on an enormous caterpillar tractor without any kind of a muffler on the engine. Without a muffler, and on a winter's evening it could be heard shortly after it started to come into town on Oak Street. Eventually, it would come up 3rd Street headed toward Deep Creek Lake.

I don't know how many different places it was used along the way, but I've heard older State Road employees say that it was always used on the hill coming up from Sand Flat. For years, I remember seeing it parked in the field at the intersection of Rt. 135 and the Deer Park Road next to a big pile of cinder that was kept by the State Roads Dept. for use on the hill coming up from Sand Flat. I'm sure that for quite a few years it was kept in that same place during the winter weather; however, I only saw it in use one time.

During the winter of 1936-37, a big 16-foot snow drift blew across the Sand Flat-Deer Park road, completely blocking for about a week. Finally on a Sunday at the end of the week, the S.R.C. decided to open the road by digging it out by hand. Apparently, the big rotary plow was also started toward the drift from Sand Flat at the same time. After several hours work a path was cut through the drift and

a truck mounted plow was able to work its way through the big drift. By this time the rotary plow got to the north end of the big drift and it was put into use widening the cut through the drift.

The rotary plow was exactly the piece of equipment needed for such a big snow drift. While I watched it cut into the drift and threw snow up over the top of the drift into an open field. In the process, it presented a wonderful picture of just how high the big drift actually was because the top of the snow in the drift was actually higher than the windows where the operator was sitting high above the big rotating fan blade. It seemed to me, that within 45 minutes two lanes of snow had been cut out of the drift and the big rotary plow was headed back toward its normal parking place at the intersection of U.S. 219 and Sand Flat Road. To the best of my memory, the big plow was kept in this location in the winter time for years and years; probably until the present Rt. 219 was relocated over the hill about 1950 and the narrow part of the road over the hill was eliminated; then the rotary plow disappeared.

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# *Mystery Photo*



The *Glades Star* asks your assistance in identifying any of the individuals in this photo and also the occasion for this gathering.

# *Lake Ford United Methodist Church*

*by Charles Royer with Alice F. Eary and Wayne Wolfe*



Photo by Douglas Auvil

**Lake Ford United Methodist Church, December 2008. Photo by Douglas Auvil.**

For over a hundred years anyone going out the Cranesville Road to visit the nationally known sub-Arctic swamp with its unusual northern most flora and fauna could not help but be impressed by the lone church standing between the road and Muddy Creek. The past forty years it has been most conspicuous with its white siding and steeple pointing to the sky. Those living in the area have grown accustomed to the steeple bell ringing every Sunday morning to call worshippers to services. People in the area, as well as some out-of-state visitors, put the date of the church's annual picnic and "Hymn Sing" on

their August calendars each year. The well-cared for grounds and cemetery across the Cranesville Road makes for a green island along the mountainside and swamp that provides a backdrop for the little church. Just when and how did it come into being?

For years the area around Cranesville Swamp was dominated by Evangelical and Lutheran congregations, but in 1882 a Methodist minister, the Rev. D. A. Friend of Friendsville, MD, established the first Methodist congregation in the area. They met in the local school house located just down the road about a quarter mile from the present church





Lake Ford Church  
—1904.



(Above)  
Lake  
Ford  
Church  
—1940s.



(Right)  
Lake  
Ford  
United  
Meth-  
odist  
Church  
—2004.

building. This continued to be their meeting place for twenty-two years, but changed in the spring of 1904 with the completion of the current structure with the Rev. J. E. Weigle of Oakland, Maryland, as the thirteenth pastor of the congregation. The property for the building was deeded to the Trustees of the church in 1903 by Eugene and Jennie (Wolfe) Teets for the "consideration of ten dollars."

Those of you who have driven out Cranesville Road past the church know that Muddy Creek flows within fifty feet of the back of the building and at flood stage waters reach the foundation and cover the floor of the adjacent picnic pavilion. The industrious beavers reintroduced in the swamp in recent years have not helped this situation with the frequent building of their dams. However, originally Muddy Creek flowed much farther back into what is now swamp area. Some records indicate that the Cranesville Road may have originally gone behind the church, but this has not been verified as a certainty. There was a foot bridge across the creek which led to a picnic area and old log cabin surrounded by tall stately pines. In the late fifties a flood changed the course of Muddy Creek and brought it much closer to the church structure where it flows today.

The church, a one room wooden framed structure with three windows on each side and twelve foot high ceilings inside, was built for the cost of \$1200 by local members and non-members of the congregation. The foundation is of stone with lime and

sand mortar and was laid by Andrew Collins, a local stone mason of the time. The congregation's oldest member at the time of its closing in December of 2008, Wayne Wolfe (95), describes the interior of the church as having "wall-paper covered sides and ends with wainscoting around the bottom three feet. They were of dark shades which gave the interior a rather somber appearance. The floor was bare painted wood. Kerosene lamps hung on hooks between the windows, each having a reflector to increase the light. . . . A Burnside stove provided heat in cold weather and sat in the center of the church, but was later moved to the left side in order to provide more room to move caskets in and out during funeral services. . . . The belfry housed the bell which was pitched a halftone lower than that of the Cranesville Church so you could tell the difference." Sometime during the second decade, the outside of the church was covered with brown asbestos shingles in order to keep it cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

Within the growing congregation of about fifty adults a choir was established and accompanied by a pump organ that is remembered by Ruth (Teets) Barkman, who attended Lake Ford as a child and young adult. "The organ you 'pumped' with your feet, had 'stops' you pulled out for different sounds, and two pedals you controlled with your knees for louder or softer. Aunt Reba [Teets] played it as long as she could, then I played as long as I was still home (prior to

1940).” This organ was eventually replaced by an electric one played primarily by Bob Lewis followed by Paul Eary. It had radio-like vacuum tubes which became obsolete and was replaced in 2000 by a newer organ donated by Mt. Zion Lutheran Church of Cumberland through the efforts of Milton Pfarr. In recent years this organ was used primarily for the annual “Hymn Sing” and other visits by guest organist Horace Sheffer of Hanover, Pennsylvania. The choir continued to sing at weekly services until the end of the 20th Century. Ada and Ray Savage, later their daughter Amy, were influential in keeping the choir together for as long as it had enough members. Alice Eary was the church pianist for a number of years until the church closing.

A very active Sunday School was also begun by the young congregation with the first superintendent, Tom Friend, followed by W. L. Riley, Samuel Friend, and others through the years. Sunday School was held April through September originally and reached a peak average attendance of 34 in 1920. At that time the weekly collection averaged about 75 cents, but a record was set in 1945 when a staggering \$3.72 was collected. Sunday School classes continued until the early 2000s with just two classes—one adult and one children. When the last youth left Lake Ford that class was abandoned and shortly after the adult class was disbanded as well.

In addition to the choir and Sunday School being established, a youth group called the Epworth League

was begun in the 1930s. Although organized for youth of the church, some young married adults attended as well. In 1933 during one of their special events, a contest, fifty youth participated along with a dozen young adults. This group represented various members from the following area families: Teets, Dodge, Elliott, Metheny, Ringer, Lewis, Taylor, Gutherie, Eary, Friend, Sines, and Miller.

Over its one hundred five year history, Lake Ford Church has seen many changes. Established as part of the Oakland Parish of the West Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it underwent a name change in 1939 when the Methodist Episcopal, the Methodist Protestant, and Methodist Episcopal (South) Conferences combined to form the national Methodist Church. At this time the “Episcopal” was dropped from the name and locally the name became the Lake Ford Methodist Church. In 1968 the United Methodist Church merged with the Evangelical United Brethren Church world-wide to form the United Methodist Church.

Lake Ford has also been a member of various parishes, a group of churches sharing the same minister, over the years. At one time during World War II when there was a shortage of ministers, Lake Ford was one of seven churches making up the Corinth-Cranesville Parish. As a result, not every church had services every Sunday. Some services were held at night in order to accommodate as many locales as possible. This ar-





**Donations to Garrett County Historical Society Museum from Lake Ford United Methodist Church include this original pulpit chair, a painting by Robert Rodeheaver, and a history of the church.**

rangement lasted until 1951. After that, Lake Ford was in the Cranesville Parish and at its closing was teamed with just one other church, Faith United Methodist.

During the war years mentioned above, Lake Ford had just evening services, but attendance did not decrease as a result and the church prospered financially. As a result, in 1957 many renovations began to the church building. An entry vestibule was added at the front to provide coat closets and a greeting area. Two years later in the rear of the church

building a Sunday School room was added, as well as a furnace/storage room to house the replacement for the coal burning stove—a new oil burning furnace. Forced hot air heat was a welcome addition for parishioners during the long cold winter months. This oil burner was replaced just five years ago with a more efficient one. A tool shed was also added behind these two rooms to house the oil tank, lawn mower and other equipment. The outside of the building was covered with aluminum siding.

After the building of the picnic pavilion in the church yard in 1978 by Harley Gabbert, the interior of Lake Ford underwent major changes for the first time since it was built. The twelve foot ceilings were dropped several feet to the top of the high windows which

were replaced with thermal ones, the wooden floor was carpeted, new padded pews replaced the original hand-made wooden painted benches, and the papered walls paneled. A semi-octagon shaped communion rail was added to a raised dais for the pulpit. A new Yamaha piano purchased and the first electric organ mentioned earlier was donated by Dorothy E. MacDonald in memory of her mother, Mary Jane Jones, who lived in the Youghiogheny Resort. It may be of interest to note that during the summer months, some residents



**The walnut cross on the backdrop is a gift from Charles Royer in memory of his wife, Evelyn Royer. In front of the pulpit is a walnut communion table, a gift from the Roszell family in memory of Jeffrey Kirk Roszell.**

of this development attend Lake Ford Church. Several year-round residents have been prominent members of the congregation including the Parkers and Mannings (the latter until the church's closing.)

In the early 2000s two other additions were welcomed inside the church. A beautiful walnut communion table for in front of the pulpit was donated by a local couple and their family, the Roszells, in loving memory of their son and brother Jeffrey. A large 5½ foot cross, a memorial to Evelyn P. Royer of Baltimore and Oakland, was donated by her husband and family and hung on the wall behind the pulpit. Both of these pieces were hand-crafted by Neal Wolfe of Loch Lynn.

Members and visitors alike always

appreciated the simple beauty of Lake Ford's interior. It was especially beautiful during the Christmas season when it was highlighted by the large lighted tree decorated with white and gold Chrismons made by Ruby Manning, Georgie Sisler, Anne Teets, Vickie Sisler, Alice Eary and others twenty years ago. An impressive service, during Holy Week at Eastertide, was the Good Friday Tenebre Service introduced by Pastor William Durst and his wife Jean. For a few years in the 1940s, Lake Ford became a popular "wedding chapel" for some out-of-state residents who were required to have blood tests and a three day waiting period for a marriage license in their home state when Maryland did not require these. One of the members who for years took great



**Church pavilion.**

pride in the appearance of the church's interior was Ada Savage, who saw to seasonal floral window arrangements and pulpit flowers.

During the past four years a large multi-colored Christmas tree set with a timer has graced the picnic pavilion next to the church. Cars could be seen slowing, stopping and even parking to enjoy the sight of the twinkling lights reflected over the snow between the pavilion and Cranesville Road. This and many other "projects" at the church could not have been possible without the loving care given by Paul and Alice Eary, who live just several blocks from the church. They have been the church's "resident caregivers" for many years.

It is not possible here to mention all of the ministers who have served the people along Muddy Creek, the Cranesville Road, and surrounding area over years since Rev. Friend in 1882 to Rev. Alan Granofsky in 2008. However, the contribution of each one cannot be ignored. Prior to the building of Lake Ford Church twelve

pastors ministered to the "flock" in the valley on the West Virginia/Maryland Line on both sides of Muddy Creek and the swamp. It was Rev. J. E. Weigle who had the joy of seeing the completion of the church building in the spring of 1904. From that time until its closing this past December (2008) the church has been served by forty-two ministers. Many of them served only one or two years before moving on to a parish with fewer churches or more centralized. The one minister who stands out among all is the Rev. Berlin H. Wilhelm of Cranesville, West Virginia. Rev. Wilhelm served as minister from 1976 until 1990. During his tenure the church rejuvenated, underwent positive internal physical changes, and saw the separation of church and cemetery which became a separate "association" independent of the church.

Sad as the closing of this church—of any church with a long history of service—may be, it is not the first time that the congregation faced such a dilemma. During the ministry of



the Rev. Newlon F. Shock (1960-63), a new church, Faith, was to replace the old Cranesville, Oak Grove, and Lake Ford churches. However, many of the congregation members opposed this move, especially those at Lake Ford. As a result most of the Lake Ford congregation remained and were joined by some others to remain independent. This congregation continued to prosper and temporarily grow. Eventually the youth all matured, the aging congregation began to dwindle, and no new growth in the area brought about the decision by the congregation to ask permission of the Conference to close. Although the church continued to be financially solid and to support local, national, and international missions, as well as Conference obligations, it was only a matter of time before this would come to an end. The active membership was down to just ten with an average age of over seventy. A congregation meeting was held in February 2008 and plans begun for the closing.

With the pending closing in mind, the church highlight of recent years—the annual picnic and “Hymn

Sing”—was planned and held in July with seventy-five in attendance. It was suggested at this time that perhaps the picnic and sing could continue in the remaining pavilion in future years. The usual Sunday services continued being conducted and concluded with a joint candlelight Christmas Eve service with Faith Church and a final Communion Service the last Sunday of December with the Rev. Berlin Wilhelm in attendance. All church memberships were automatically moved to Faith United Methodist Church. Disposition of the church building is still pending, but it will be removed as the ground has been deeded to the Lake Ford Cemetery Association.

Although the last remaining members of the Lake Ford “family” were saddened by the decision to close their church home, they were reminded by one member’s daughter of the proud heritage that was being left behind, of the service rendered over one hundred five years, and of the devotion shown to their faith throughout those years. Every church should have such a proud history.

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| 2. "Some Things I Adore"—F. Robinson<br>Words by Katherine Nethkin | 13. "Sentimental Journey"       |
| 3. "The Birthday Song"—F. Robinson                                 | 14. "I'll Be Seeing You"        |
| 4. "The Deer Park Waltz"—Katherine<br>Rowan Rashe                  | 15. "Your Eyes Have Told Me So" |
| 5. Toccata Opus 7—Bessie Ward<br>Hinebaugh                         | 16. "If I Could Tell You"       |
| 6. "White Cliffs of Dover"   | 17. "Down In the Forest"        |
| 7. "Moon Light Serenade"   | 18. "To Where You Are"          |
| 8. "How Deep is the Ocean"   | 19. "Midnight Blue"             |
| 9. "All The Things You Are"  | 20. "Reminiscing"               |
| 10. "The Way You Look Tonight"                                     | 21. "Embraceable You"           |
| 11. "These Foolish Things"   | 22. "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes"   |
|  | 23. "Time After Time"           |
|  | 24. "Maria"                     |
|  | 25. "Danny Boy"                 |

This CD-R was recorded and produced by Walt Copeland, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Oakland, MD. Your support of this ministry and the Garrett County Historical Society is appreciated.

# *Ice Blocks In Pennsylvania*

*by John A. Grant*

It's hard to believe that over 50 years have passed since the "flying saucer" phenomena gripped the American public. Strange lights in the sky; Washington, D.C. "top secret" files unavailable to anyone; "no admittance" to desert locations in New Mexico, guarded by soldiers. They were all a part of the "flying saucer" craze that gripped the American public during the middle of the 1950s.

Part of these phenomena probably barked back to the 1930s, Orson Welles radio program on a Sunday evening which shook up the American public. It happened during a regular Sunday evening program dramatizing the landing of some kind of a "space craft" in New Jersey. Mr. Welles did this program with a text that had "special news" interruptions to an ordinary program. It was so realistic that the American public listening to the program thought that a "space craft" actually had landed in New Jersey. It didn't help matters that it was the Fall of the year and many householders in New Jersey were burning leaves raked up on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. The bonfires of leaves that evening gave credence to the space craft invasion. Needless to say, the radio network was busy all the next day apologizing to radio audiences for the fear generated by the broadcast.

Never the less the seed was planted, and the "Mars Invasion" phenomena came into full bloom after W.W.II. It supposedly began with an airline pilot who reported seeing strange lights in the sky moving at terrific speeds when he was flying over the mountains in western United States. Another pilot reported seeing strange lights circling a mountain top in the West at a high rate of speed. Finally, there were news reports about a mysterious craft that had crashed in the New Mexico desert; no one was allowed to see it, except for a few specialists from Washington, D.C.

Thus, a story in a Pittsburgh newspaper caught the public's interest during the latter part of the 1950s. The story was about a block of ice that was found at the edge of a farmer's field near a road intersection in Somerset County, Pa.; no one could imagine how it got there. It was mild weather and the only solution was that it had fallen from the wing of an airplane flying over the area. However, the description of the block of ice far exceeded the size of what would form on an airplane's wing. Then a person, who wished to remain unknown, called a Pittsburgh newspaper and claimed that he had seen it fall. The result was that people began to wonder if had fallen from some kind of



space craft; for a short time the road intersection was a point of interest and a gathering place for the curious local residents.

During that same week, people who were gathered there in the morning saw a milk delivery truck pull into the intersection. It was the type of delivery truck which could be seen in most towns delivering milk to individual houses. While they watched, the driver got out of the truck, opened the back door, and kicked out a block of ice used to

keep the milk cool. It landed on the edge of the road next to the farmer's field near the same spot where the "mysterious" block of ice had been seen several days before. The driver climbed back into the driver's seat and drove off. The gathered crowd, including the newspaper reporters, let out a mild groan as they realized the origin of the block of ice which had gotten so much coverage in the Pittsburgh newspaper; thus ended a "flying saucer" episode in Somerset County, Pa.

## *Memorials*

### **Judge Lewis Jones**

Thomas and Diane Jones

### **Elsie "Billie" Cross**

Bob and Leanna Boal

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Kappa Gamma

# Oakland Accessions

*November 11, 2008 - February 9, 2009*

- 1925 Motor Vehicle Registration and Learner's Permit of Clarence Zimmerman, 1933 ID card U.S Employment Service, W.O.W. 25 yr. member sterling silver pin of Edward Dixon, 1932 Prettyman School booklet with names of students belonging to Nellie Zimmerman Dixon..... *gifts of Gail Dixon*
- USS Garrett County information ..... *gift of Bill Bigelow*
- 1943 "Buy War Bonds" poster..... *gift of Hazel Steiding Sherwood*
- Blotter made from the hull of the  
U.S. Frigate Constitution (1794) ..... *gift of Mary V. Jones*
- Newspaper accounts of the GC bus wreck on the  
MLP tracks in 1959 ..... *gift of Andrea Iden Martin*
- "What Every American Should Know" postcard, Dr. William and  
Patience Grant marriage announcement, 1917 Oakland High  
School commencement program..... *gifts of Mary Ann Brislin*
- Plate glass from the Deer Park Swimming  
Pool ..... *gift of Andy and Anna Burrell*
- 20 pieces of foreign currency ..... *gift of Calvin Simms*
- WWII Newspapers and documents belonging to Alvin Brock,  
*Saturday Evening Post* ..... *gifts of Catherine Leighton Boulter*
- Oakland 2nd Street Picture, St. Paul's UM Church Brochure,  
Church history CD ..... *gifts of Robert Boal*
- Mtn. Lake Park Hotel waste jar ..... *gift of Rodger Ware*
- 48 Garrett County Placemats ..... *gift of C. H. Bowman*
- Book of Maryland State Documents—1852..... *gift of William Treacy*
- 17 Mile Grade postcard..... *gift of Mel Collins*
- Handbook of Civilian Defense ..... *gift of Mike Henderson*
- Oakland High School Yearbook "The Oak" ..... *gift of Edsel Calhoun*
- Josiah Friend of Swanton, MD,  
Books I and II ..... *gifts of Patricia A. Thompson*
- The Pleasant Valley Grange Minutes  
Record ..... *gift of Carlton Sembower Estate*

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# Periodical



# THE Glades Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

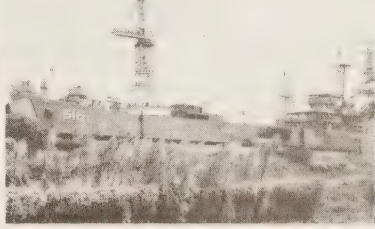
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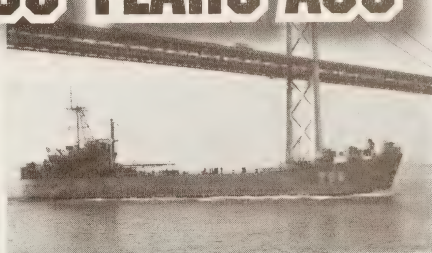
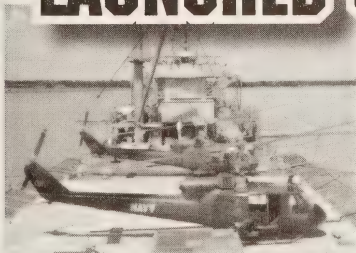
JUNE 2009



## USS GARRETT COUNTY LST-786



## LAUNCHED 65 YEARS AGO





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*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

PUBLISHED quarterly by the Society at Oakland, MD. Entered as Periodicals Postage Paid at the Post Office of Oakland, MD.

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
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- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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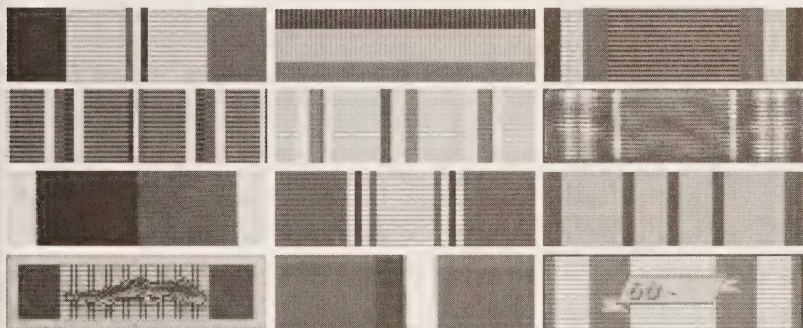
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# USS Garrett County

Sixty-five years ago the USS Garrett County (LST-786) was launched and commissioned at the Dravo Shipyard on Neville Island in the Ohio River just downstream from Pittsburgh. She was 428 ft. long, had a 50 ft. beam (a measurement of width), was powered by two General Motors 900 horsepower diesel engines,



and had a maximum speed of 12 knots. Her initial armament consisted of seven 40 mm antiaircraft (AA) guns, six 20 mm AA guns, and two .50 caliber machine guns. Another 40 mm gun and six 20 mm guns were added later. The ship was manned by seven officers and 104 enlisted men, US Coast Guard during World



Combat ribbons earned by USS Garrett County. Top row—Combat Action Ribbon—(2- 29 March 1968, 23 January 1969)—Presidential Unit Citation—Navy Unit Commendation (2). Second Row—American Campaign Medal—Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (2)—World War II Victory Medal. Third Row—Navy Occupation Service Medal (with Asia clasp)—National Defense Service Medal—Vietnam Service Medal (8). Fourth Row—Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation (9)—Philippines Liberation Medal—Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

War II, US Navy afterward—and she could carry more than 160 assault troops.

During WW II the USS Garrett County participated in the assaults and occupations of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. After the war the ship performed occupation duty in the Far East, including China. She was decommissioned in 1946 and assigned to the Pacific Reserved Fleet.

Recommissioned in 1966, LST (Landing Ship Tank)-786 was redesignated a Patrol Craft Tender (AGP) and saw extensive action in the Vietnam War, including the Tet Offensive. Decommissioned again, the USS Garrett County was transferred to the Republic of Vietnam and re-



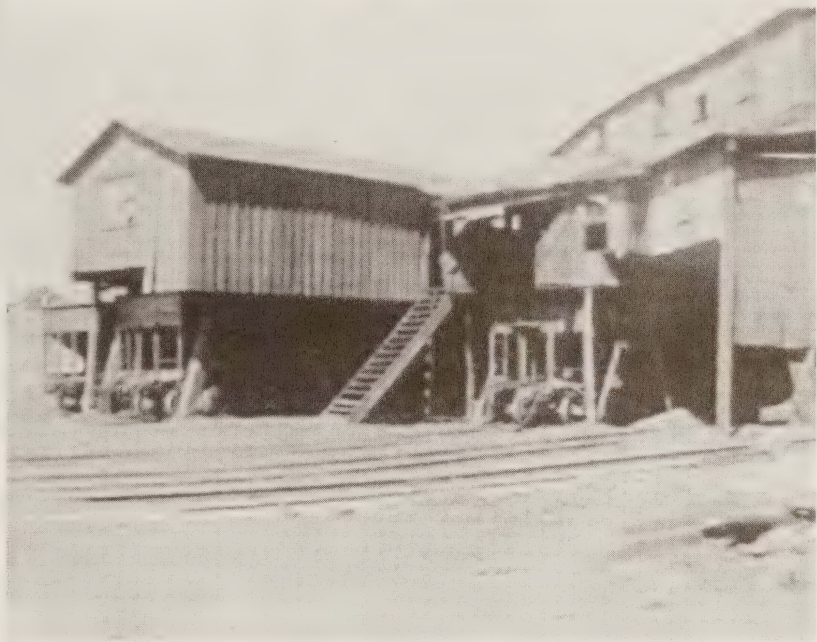
**USS Garrett County (AGP-786) at anchor in the Mekong Delta, South Vietnam, date unknown. On her deck are two Navy Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron Three (HAL-3) "Seawolf" UH-1B Huey gunships from the squadrons Det Four or Det Six assigned to the ship.**

named Can Tho. The ship and her crew escaped to the Philippines with the fall of the South Vietnam government, after which custody was transferred to the Republic of the Philippines and the ship renamed Kalinga Apayao.



# Turner Douglas Coal Mine

by John A. Grant



Coal tipples at Turner Douglas Mine.

Known as the “Freeport,” this five foot coal seam had been used locally by small coal operations for years to supply “house coal.”

Although major coal mining had been taking place in Allegany County, Maryland, for over 75 years, large scale mining in Garrett County, Maryland and Preston County, W. Va. was still limited to small mines. The reason—the mines in Allegany County had a railroad available to take the coal to a market.

Then, in the 1920s things

changed and a large scale mine was opened by Stanley Coal Company in Crellin, Maryland, in nearby Preston County, W.Va.; the mine location was known as Turner Douglas, Preston County, W.Va.: the reason—they had a former lumber railroad connected to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to carry the coal to market.

The owners of the lumber railroad in Crellin, Maryland, decided that the majority of the forests in the area had been cut down, and that coal mining seemed to be an available option to



**Looking toward the east end of the Turner Douglas tippie.**

continue business, so they decided to open up a mine the nearby "Freeport" coal seam.

The Freeport seam was a 5 foot seam of good coal that could be found near Crellin in Preston County, W.Va. As a matter of fact, it was already being mined for the coke ovens at nearby Corinth, W.Va.

During the mid-1920s, the area at Turner Douglas was a very busy place. A coal tippie was built high enough to allow railroad coal cars from small mine cars; an electric plant was built to provide electricity for the small mine locomotives commonly known as "motors" which moved small mine cars around in the mine, to run big fan motors for providing fresh air in the mine, and electric pumps to evacuate water from inside the mine. Electricity was also needed for the "cutting machines" which undercut blocks of

coal that were to be dug out in the mining process.

It was not practical to run the big "motors" into every spot where coal was being dug, so mine ponies were used to pull loaded cars to a gathering place where the "motor" could pick the coal up to be hauled out to the tippie.

The mine was gradually enlarged into nearby coal mines. For economic reasons the Stanley Coal Company maintained the same tippie at Turner Douglas but enlarged the underground rail system until motors were pulling mine cars for several miles.

By the time of W.W.II, coal "stripping" or open pit mining was producing coal in Garrett County, and deep mining carried out by the Stanley Coal Company was no longer profitable so the Turner Douglas mine was closed forever.

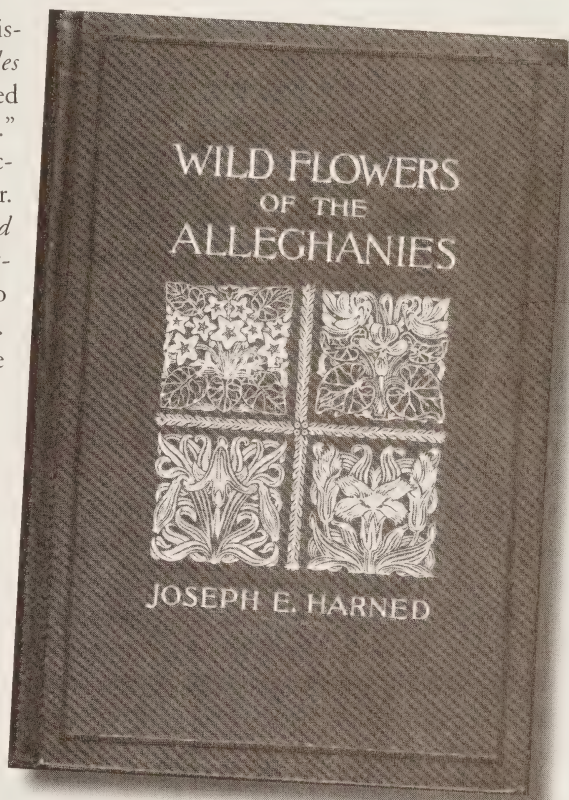
# Wild Flowers of the Alleghanies

by Lawrence Sherwood

The March 2009 issue of *The Glades Star* has an article titled "Dr. Joseph E. Harned." This article has a picture of the cover of Dr. Harned's book, *Wild Flowers of the Alleghanies*, along with two pictures from the book. However, the article was mostly about Dr. Harned himself.

In this article we will give facts about the book.

This book came out in two editions, one in 1931 and the other in 1936. Both editions were published by the author and printed by the Sincell Printing Company, Oakland, Maryland. Internal evidence indicates that they were bound by "The Albrecht Co., Bookbinders, Baltimore, Md." All copies appear to have been bound in either dark blue or dark green cloth. The gold embossing includes four stylized pictures of flowers as well as the name of the book and the author. Because of the heavy paper used in the printing and the thickness of



the book, the covers are often found pulling away from the interior. Dr. Harned often signed and dated the copies; an inlaid photo of the author is sometimes present.

The difference between the two editions is found in the number of colored plates and the small differences in the number of pages.

In the very lengthy copy on the title page the first edition includes



"Eight Colored Plates from paintings by Miss Mary Eaton and Mr. F. S. Matthews." The second edition changes it to "Sixteen Colored Plates" and adds "and others" at the end of this sentence.

The actual copy throughout most of the book is the same until you come to page 617. Here a "Supplement" is inserted in the second edition, pages 617 through 621. Most of the Supplement is given to the Pitcherplant. In four pages Dr. Harned tells how he had searched for this plant for thirty years and how a small boy helped him find it. "For the sake of wildflower preservation I deem it best to withhold the name of the boy and the exact location of the swamp...."

Because of the Supplement the 670 pages in the first edition grew to 675 in the second edition.

The 1931 edition must have sold out quickly for there to be the need of a second edition as soon as 1936.

When the 1936 edition came out it had a dust-jacket made of rather thin plain paper. Apparently the dust-jackets wore out quickly or were simply thrown away. In my experience I have found only one copy with the tattered dust-jacket present.

On the dust jacket is printed "What Leading Botanists and Educators Say about *Wild Flowers of the Alleghanies*." There are 22 such recommendations given.

Among the interesting comments is the one from Ex-President Calvin Coolidge who wrote, "A book of absorbing interest to the flower lover."

A.N. Ward, Ph.D., President of

Western Maryland College, wrote, "Harned's 'Wild Flowers of the Alleghanies' ought to be in every college and high school library, and in the home of every lover of nature. It is a monumental achievement and places the author in a distinguished place as a writer in this field."

Frederick W. Coville, Botanist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, wrote that this book "is an authoritative treatise on the Appalachian flora. The author has produced a thoroughly original wild flower manual. It is delightfully written and unusually comprehensive. The book is in a class distinctly its own. The distinguishing characters of each family are shown by special drawing, a feature well worth the price of the book. It should be in every botanist's library."

Dale Carnegie wrote in *The Houston Post*, Houston, Texas, "A monumental work, superbly illustrated. One of the finest books ever written on wild flowers in the United States."

Howard A. Kelly, M.D., Baltimore, MD, wrote about how helpful this book would be to young scientists: "My old 1875 Gray's Manual is by my side with it extensive marginal markings dating the findings of local flora, beginning in the seventies of the last century.... I envy the younger generation starting out into the field with such an unparallel and splendid help."

Dr. Harned became a friend of Thomas A. Edison. Once, by means of a double exposure, he made a snapshot of Edison sitting on top of the waters of Muddy Creek Falls, near

Oakland. "That," commented the much-photographed inventor, "is the first time my picture was ever taken in a position like that."

On a more serious note, Edison discussed with him the possibilities of making synthetic rubber from wild plants.

When Dr. Harned had written up all the wild flowers of Western Maryland he decided to publish his work, but a Harvard professor insisted that the book would be more valuable if it covered a broader area. So Dr. Harned began another fifteen years' work studying the flora of the whole Allegheny Mountain range—total of

1,500 varieties.

When the book was in proof stage Dr. Harned was checking the proof-copy. He suffered an eye hemorrhage and had to give it up, but the botany departments of Cornell, Harvard, and other universities took over the task and did it without charge.

His enthusiasm for his subject comes across in this book. This infectious enthusiasm once led Dale Carnegie to term him: "One of the happiest men in Maryland ... a happy man because he had an enthusiasm for something outside himself, something he can share with others."

## Correction

In the article on Dr. Harned in the March, 2009, issue of *The Glades Star*, Helen Harned Kahl was identified as Dr. Harned's niece. She is, in fact, his granddaughter.

---

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No, *The Glade Star* is not accepting advertising, but scattered throughout this issue are reprints of ads from the 1927 issue of *Kitzy-Hi*, the yearbook of Kitzmiller High School.

# Mason-Dixon Line

*Editor's note: Here, from the museum's archives, is a concise account of the drawing of the Mason-Dixon Line, the boundary between Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Longer, more detailed accounts can be found in Volumes 3 and 7 of the bound copies of the Glades Star available at the museum.*

In colonial days boundary disputes could not be avoided as no maps were available, and grants of land overlapped. All grants were from "sea to sea." Long disputes held the boundaries of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware and other states in uncertainty. Maryland claimed part of Pennsylvania. Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, received his grant of land in 1632, while William Penn's charter was nearly 50 years later in 1681. In 1763 Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, well-known astronomers and surveyors, were employed and came from London to establish the accepted boundary lines. They first surveyed Delaware's borders, then entered on the most difficult task of marking the long line for the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania. Four years were spent on this survey. A vista was cut 24 feet wide among the trees, in the middle of which the exact line was marked. These markings were made at the top of ridges and mountains by heaps of stones some six feet high and three or four feet across.

As the line extended west, the Indians became suspicious and resentful. The brave surveyors had reached and passed the western extremity of Maryland and penetrated land beyond the Monongahela River before abandoning their work. On their return through the mountains, from high points they could see the carefully surveyed vista of their line stretching many miles east and west.

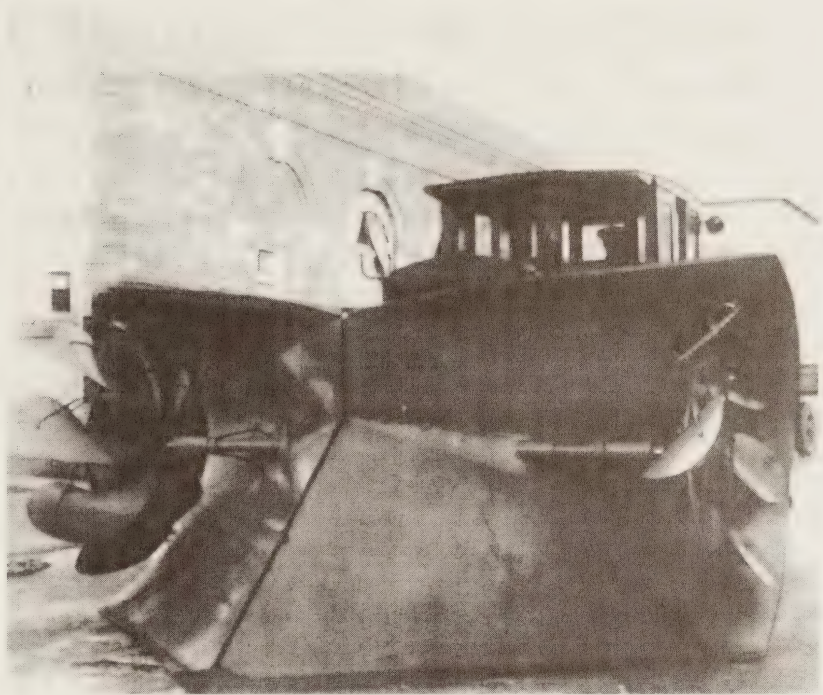
Stones engraved with the arms of Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, on the south, and with the arms of William Penn on the north, were placed every fifth mile. Each mile between was marked with a stone with the letters M on the south and P on the north. This line was fixed after nearly a century of discussion between Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Two unpretending and skillful men made their names immortal. Little did Mason and Dixon realize their fame would be made through the ages. Their line would be a boundary not only between three states but also between North and South.

The line beyond the Monongahela was surveyed in 1784 by Alexander McClean for Pennsylvania and Joseph Neville for Virginia. The western line of Maryland was not surveyed and legally decided upon until 1910. Residents along that border did not know to which county and state they owed allegiance.



# The "Snow King" Plow

by John A. Grant



**The Snow King Plow.**

*Foreward: In the March 2009 issue of the Glades Star, there was an article called "The Rotary Snow Plow." It told about the 1936 use of the State Road Commission's rotary snow plow to clear away a big drift on the Deer Park to Sand Flat highway.*

**I**n April 2009, the Historical Society received a letter from a John W. Johnson of White Bear Lake, MN, telling of a plow invented by his Grandfather John O. Johnson for which his Grandfather got a patent for manufacturing: a photograph of the

Johnson plow very much resembles the photograph of the one used in the March issue of the *Glades Star*. Did the Maryland S.R.C. purchase Johnson's plow for use on the Maryland roads?

Mr. John W. Johnson often visits in Oakland, Md., and is married to the former Carolyn Lewis of Oakland. Below is material describing the Rotary Snow Plow invention by his grandfather, John O. Johnson. Mr. John W. Johnson enclosed material from his book, *John O. Johnson From*

*Norway To White Bear Lake.***"SNOW PLOW INVENTION"**

John O. Johnson, like other automobile owners, did not like the unplowed winter roads. He was a member of the St. Paul (MN) Auto Club and wanted to be able to drive his car all year long. In the winter of 1920 - 1921, he decided to invent a snowplow that could handle any amount of snow. Early snowplows pushed snow into large piles which became too heavy to move. John went into his machine shop with the idea of inventing something that would throw the snow off to the side. He owned a business of manufacturing motor boats, he and his 23-year-old son spent their evenings working in the boat shop creating a rotary snowplow. They built a "V" shaped plow that would direct snow to each side, and then directed it upward toward rotary fans which stuck out of both sides of the plow.

At nearby Bald Eagle Lake, a farmer had a small "Cleat Trak" Caterpillar-type tractor that used belt-linked cleat tracks for traction. John Johnson purchased the tractor vehicle and attached his snowplow. This tractor powered his plow through any

amount of snow, but only at a top speed of 15 mph.

In the winter of 1922 - 1923, sixteen weeks of snowfall built drifts that the county road crews could not remove. One day, the county road crews tried to open the road from north of St. Paul to White Bear Lake, but their plows got stuck and they gave up.

John decided this would be a good time to demonstrate the new rotary plow! He drove his plow out of the boat shop and cleared five miles of road between North St Paul and White Bear Lake. The drifts were high and it was slow going, but the new plow threw snow to both sides, making it look like a blizzard. People came out to watch and marvel at this wondrous machine.

John O. Johnson's snowplows were purchased by many of the surrounding areas and also in other states; possibly the one used in Garrett County, Maryland, during the 1930s was one manufactured by Johnson's company. However, redesign and rebuilding of the state roads after W.W.II made it unnecessary to use a "rotary plow" in Garrett County anymore.

---

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# *Known Coast to Coast*

*by Paul Durham*



**Thayer's Barn.**

During the 1950s, families became more mobile with the growth in car ownership and highway improvements, and the new idea of "summer vacations" to the mountains was becoming increasingly popular. The Deep Creek Lake area, which had yet to be developed to any great extent, experienced an initial shortage of purpose built lodging, motels, taverns and restaurants that catered to tourists. Ever ingenious, and with a minimum of fuss and bother, many local businesses adapted and found interesting ways and places to provide the services that tourists demanded. More than once, existing buildings, barns and homes were retrofitted to provide quaint but hospitable places

for food and drink during the day or for some interesting and unique entertainment at night.

The rustic log lodge and barn motif seems to have been a favorite style of the time. One of the most famous, Thayer's Barn, was located along the shores of the lake near the present day Lakeside Creamery. Once used as an actual barn, Norma and Bob Fike operated it as a tavern and restaurant that was quite popular with locals and tourists alike. Many say it was *the* place to go for dancing and fun. According to one account, a "well lubricated" regular even attempted to dive from the back porch right into the lake. Many memories were to be made and had at Thayer's Barn.



**The Stone Tavern.**

Traveling south on Route 219, the next stop was a rustic log restaurant, the Cabin Lodge, that advertised a “sparkling evening, join the folks who drop in here. Perfect food and refreshments, including the leading beers. A perfect floor for dancing... Cabin Lodge, Known Coast to Coast.” The Cabin Lodge was operated by Eddie and Louise Frey and had its beginnings as an ice cream stand, then a souvenir stand, and then it finally blossomed into a grand log restaurant with a “Fireside Dining Room overlooking beautiful Deep Creek Lake.” Some say that Cabin Lodge had the best fried chicken in the county, served with no knives, no forks, “just a bib and a tub of water.”

Red Run Lodge’s barn turned restaurant was once part of a working farm. The original owners had acquired the property from the

Eastern Land Corporation (who had purchased the lands around the lake for the hydroelectric project). The area around the barn later became known as “The McComas Tract” or “McComas Beach” and during the 1950s the McComas family began to sell off lakefront lots. One retired DNR park ranger remembers riding a pony to McComas Beach as a young teenager in the 1950s. He and his buddies camped for days along the shore, living on fish, potatoes and canned beans, with hardly a care in the world.

During the 1960s, Red Run Lodge grew in favor as a local restaurant and watering hole. It was especially popular with the Wisp ski patrol. Many locals remember going on a date to watch movies upstairs in the barn. Eventually the grounds around the lodge morphed into the



**Cabin Lodge.**

Red Run Condominium, with the Red Run Inn's barn in the center to carry on its restaurant and club tradition.

The old Deep Creek Lodge was a purpose built establishment on the site of present day Ski Harbor Condominium. Operated by Marge and "Fats" Funk, it was very popular with the McHenry crowd. Deep Creek Lodge was a major tourist destination, offering a "kitchenette type motel," meals, cabins, dock space and mobile homes. "Fats" was evidently a great host, and kept the conversation as warm as the fire in the immense fireplace that was in the restaurant. The Deep Creek Lodge offered live country and western music and dancing on Saturday nights.

As more people discovered the lake, the larger establishments could not meet all of the demand for evening entertainment. A unique venue also developed during this time...

that of the house turned club. Places like "The Cellar Door" and "Bobby Who's" are prime examples.

"Bobby Who's" was located in McHenry where Sunplace Condominium is now on Deep Creek Drive. One local says that food and drink were offered in the basement of the house and that "Uncle Cliff" lived upstairs. "The establishment looked just like a basement in a house." To get into the place, you walked from the parking lot across the soft ground on wooden boards. There was often live band music to enjoy with your fare.

Just south along Deep Creek Drive was "The Cellar Door," which had been converted from a house and which you literally entered through the cellar door. Food and drink was to be had downstairs, while the upstairs had a dance floor. According to one well known local who asks to remain anonymous, "I spent many and evening there. It was some place." Danc-



ing and live music were especially popular at the time.

There were many other nightspots that are long gone. The mention of "Storey's Bar" conjures up memories of a one room tavern where everyone knew the bartender, Norma, and Norma pretty well knew everyone back. Many people still have memories of other places long gone with names like "The Pink Panther," "Railey's Stone Tavern," and "Zumps," all now faded into memories. Garrett County even once had summer theater in a place called "The Blue Barn."

Some say it was normal for a group of locals to caravan from nightspot to nightspot to catch up on the day's happenings and to stay in touch with friends. It was not unusual for a bartender to even close up for the evening and come along for the ride, in order to relax and enjoy their own

beer or two at a competitive establishment. As one local resident put it... "They were all like "Cheers" on TV, everyone knew everyone else and you all looked out for each other. If you needed a ride home, you got one. If you needed a little cheering up, you could get that, too. It was a wonderful time."

*The writer wishes to acknowledge the good memory of the many local contributors to this article, all of whom respectfully asked to remain anonymous.*

*Based in Oakland, Maryland, Paul Durham is a writer and photographer whose work reflects a lifetime love affair with parks and heritage sites. Paul's career includes 27 years as a park ranger and conservation professional. His work can be seen online at his website at [www.heritagresourcephoto.com](http://www.heritagresourcephoto.com)*

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Membership

# *Spring Meeting of Historical Society*

*by John A. Grant*



**Dr. Lawrence Sherwood, speaker at the Historical Society's spring meeting.**

**O**n the evening of April 30, 2009, the Garrett County Historical Society held its annual spring meeting at the Pleasant Valley Community Center. Over ninety members of the Historical Society and their guests were present to hear a talk by the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood about the

early history and layout of Oakland, Maryland; Dr. Sherwood is a historian and retired minister of the Methodist Church.

Earlier in the evening, Dr. Sherwood had filled a table on one side of the dining room with a photograph and other memorabilia.

The meeting was opened by Pres. Robert Boal, who made a few preliminary announcements and then asked Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to give the invocation. Following the invocation members of the Amish community served a delicious meal.

After the meal was completed. Pres. Boal conducted a few items of business. Then he introduced Dr. Sherwood as the speaker for the evening. Dr. Sherwood came to the speaker's stand with a large photograph which had been on the display table and told the audience that it was of Geo. Daily. He then proceeded to describe George Daily, where he had lived and that he had laid out the lots near the Little Youghiogeny. The name "Oakland" was chosen by his daughter as the new town that was to be built on these lots.

Dr. Sherwood had sheets of writing paper concerning these lots, and told where the corner stone was still standing for the Lot # 1 at the corner of Water and First streets. He continued to tell about the development of Oakland from a slow beginning, and how it had increased dramatically after the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad came through Oakland in 1851.

Dr. Sherwood completed his talk about 8:15 p.m.

The evening's activities were concluded with the drawing for the door prize and recognition of various individuals in the audience as well as officers of the Historical Society. Pres. Boal announced the June meeting would be held on June 26 at Bittinger, Md., beginning at 6:30 p.m. and concluded the evening's activities.



Eleanor Callis, Museum Curator; Martha DeBerry, Corresponding Secretary; and Brenda Gnegy, Assistant Museum Curator, at the spring meeting.



# *Naylor Gift to the Historical Society*

*by John A. Grant*

A guest at the April 26 meeting of Historical Society's Board of Directors was Mr. Alonzo "Lonnie" Naylor. It gave the Board a chance to personally thank him for the large monetary gift to the Historical Society from himself and the estate of his father, Howard Naylor.

With the money, the Historical Society was able to begin some needed repairs to the rear wall of

the Society's Museum in downtown Oakland. The repairs were made by a company that is owned by a member of the society and he donated part of the repair costs as a gift to the society. This meant that money was left over from the original gift from Naylor and will be used to paint and repair part of the Deer Park Hotel replica siding and porch on the north side of the Museum building.

---

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## **"MY FORD'S 23RD PSALM"**

The Ford is my Car, I shall not want another. It maketh me lie down in wet places. It leadeth me into deep waters. It soileth my soul. It leadeth me into paths of ridicule for its name sake. It prepareth a break-down in the presence of my enemies. Yea, though I ride through the valley, I am towed up the hills, I fear great evil when I am with it. It enoileth my face with oil. Its tank runneth dry. The rods in the engine discomfort me. Surely if this thing follows me all the days of my life, I shall dwell in the house of the insane forever.

**"THANK YOU"**

# *Things That Go “Wham-Bang” in the Night!*

*by John A. Grant*



**Old intersection of U.S. 219 and two country roads.**

“No doubt it was a hazard, but it was no fault of ours that cars missed the turn and hit the house.” The farmer was describing what happened at night at the intersection U.S. 219 and two county roads near the front of his house.

To solve the problem, the farmer moved his house back from the road intersection about 100 feet. Unfortunately, the automobile garage at the far end of his front yard was still too near U.S. 219, but he thought it was safe. Once more, in the middle

of the night, an automobile missed the turn; but this time it went across front lawn and hit the side of his automobile garage damaging his brand new Plymouth car.

Another two miles south on U.S. 219, another farmer had the same problem; he lived on a “u” shaped curve where north-bound traffic was headed slightly “down-hill.” It also happened to be where the county road to Friendsville intersected with U.S. 219.

As with the previous situation,



**They used to miss the turn and hit the house.**

cars in the middle of the night which wanted to continue northward on U.S. 219 would run off the road. However, this time the farmer's house was on the inside of the "u" shape and the cars which missed the turn would

run into his farm buildings.

The farmer's complaint was similar to his neighbor's two miles away; in the middle of the night there would be a loud "wham-bang" only this time the cars ran into one



**They missed the curve, but the barn was too far away to hit.**



of his farm buildings. "One hit the corn crib and went right through it; another smashed the chicken house," said the farmer. "I guess I'm lucky they didn't hit the barn or machine shed, but they were too far away."

Thus would be the stories of what happened continuously before the U.S. 219 was relocated and rebuilt back in 1954. Since then the two intersections have been relocated and traffic does not create a "wham-bang!" in the middle of the night.

(1)

DEAR ELEANOR,

IN APRIL, I WROTE A NOTE TO MR JOHN A. GRANT AND ASKED IF HE KNEW WHERE THE SITE OF THE OLD MOUNTAIN LAKE HOTEL HAD BEEN LOCATED. HE NOT ONLY ANSWERED MY QUESTION, BUT TOOK THE EXTRA TIME TO PINPOINT THE HOTEL'S SITE IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE PRESENT DAY FAITH EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH. MR. GRANT ALSO SHARED SOME INTERESTING BACKGROUND ON THE MOUNTAIN LAKE HOTEL OWNERS, THE DANCES HELD AT THE HOTEL AFTER THE YEARLY TENNIS TOURNAMENT, AND A HUMOROUS ANECDOTE REGARDING THE HOTEL AT THE TIME OF ITS DECONSTRUCTION.

MR. GRANT IS CERTAINLY A CREDIT TO THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY. I GREATLY APPRECIATED THE INFORMATION HE PASSED ALONG TO ME.

I HAVE ENCLOSED A DONATION FOR THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY. PLEASE USE WHERE NEEDED, I DO NOT REQUIRE A TAX RECEIPT.

SINCERELY,  
*Alex. Anderson*  
HAMILTON, ONTARIO  
CANADA

P.S. KINDLY GIVE MY REGARDS TO MR. GRANT.

The Museum recently received this letter of appreciation concerning the Society's John Grant. Indeed, John is a treasure. The Historical Society, as well as every resident of Garrett County, owes him a tremendous debt for his extensive knowledge of our region and for his willingness to share it. And he is a gentleman in every sense of the word.

# Who Discovered Garrett County?

*Editor's note: This article appeared 68 years ago in what may well have been the very first issue of the Glades Star. Its author is unknown.*

The ancient Mound Builders were probably first to follow the buffalo traces into our Glades Country. After them came various Indian tribes who left graves, arrow points and other stone implements where they hunted and camped.

The first white men to come were doubtless French or English traders and hunters, but they left no written records of their travels through our mountains.

Two early Virginia surveying parties left some notes on what is now Garrett County. In 1736 Major William Mayo's party surveyed the Potomac River for Lord Fairfax, proprietor of the "Northern Neck"; reaching what they supposed to be "the head spring" of the river, they marked the trees and returned to Virginia. They named the streams flowing into the Potomac, including Savage River, for John Savage, a surveyor of the party.

Ten years later Virginia and Fairfax sent surveyors, under Thomas Lewis, to locate the western boundary of his grant. They found the head spring marked by Mayo and planted there the "Fairfax Stone." Some of this party crossed the Great Backbone Mountain and explored the Great

Glades beyond.

But the first account of real exploration of the Glades Country was written by Christopher Gist in his journal. In 1761 the Ohio Company sent Gist to find "the nearest and most convenient road \* \* \* from the Company's Store at Will's Creek (Cumberland) to a landing on the Monongahela." Gist's party set out on horseback from the Company's Store on November 4th. They found the old Indian trail "very full of trees and stones." Next day they stopped at a point about three miles west of where Frostburg is now located. On November 8th Gist camped at the Little Meadows two miles east of Grantsville. He wrote there:

"We hunted all the ground for 10 m. or more and killed several Deer [sic] & Bears and one large Elk. The Bottoms upon the branches are but narrow with some Indian Fields. \* \*  
\* We were employed in searching the Lands and discovering the Branches, Creeks, &c."

November 20-21 the explorers passed on, cutting their way through some "great laurel thickets" to Turkeyfoot (Confluence, Pa.), where they found a small "hunting town of the Delawares," from whom Gist bought some corn.

Can you now answer the question?

# Old Days And Ways

by W. McCulloh Brown

*Editor's note: This account of early days in this area is from the June 1943 issue of the Glades Star. It was written by The Honorable W. McCulloh Brown who was elected to the Maryland state senate from Garrett County in 1905.*

With the phenomenal development in the sciences, arts, manufacture and transportation which have come during the past fifty years, it will be hard for the coming generation to picture life as it was for early pioneers who went into what was then a wilderness and made for themselves a home.

There was a region near the headwaters of the Potomac River, far from any railway, where for miles there was no road, or house, or habitation, which went by the name of "The Canaan Wilderness", and if unbroken forests and wild animals would make it so, it was well named.

Into the northern edge of this forest went the Bruce family before our Civil War. A sketch of their life and achievement will illustrate that of many others of earlier times.

The point to be observed is the resourcefulness, efficiency and contentment which they developed among themselves in making the home what it was.

The parents going into this untouched forest made "a deadening", as it was called. The brush and small trees were cut, while the larger ones were girdled and allowed to stand

until the roots rotted and they fell, then they were cut, rolled into piles and burned. Each year the clearing was added to, until a good-sized farm was the result.

The house was built of logs, a story and a half in height. When chinked with clay it made a warm and comfortable home. There were two rectangular sections, separated by a passageway closed to the north; the roof extended evenly over all from end to end, and on the south curved down to cover an open porch for the entire length of the building. At either end there was a huge stone chimney and fireplace which literally "kept the Home Fires burning", for the fires once lighted were seldom allowed to go out. Logs four feet in length were rolled in to these great fireplaces, which could always furnish a bed of glowing coals.

These two-room log houses were the forerunners of a distinctive American type of architecture and later, with the passage way converted into a wide hall extending through the building, and with wings added, established a model for the Colonial homes of Maryland and Virginia, exemplified in a high degree by "White Hall" and "Brandon."

In the large bedrooms overhead (one assigned to the men, the other to women), were two or more double beds with straw ticks below and feathers on top, into which one would sink



almost out of sight. Blankets and comforters were made from home grown wool. The old couple slept in the sitting room on the ground floor.

Close to the porch was a spring of the clearest, coldest water, with the spring house in which were kept the milk and butter. On a shelf outside were tin basins and soap; a roller towel hung on the wall of the porch. Here the men were supposed to wash. Were it not for the fact that the coldest spring in summer holds its temperature and furnishes the warmest water in winter (one's toilet would have been sadly abbreviated during the months of the latter).

In the passageway between the two parts of the building and along the wall of the porch hung all manner of things—harness, saddles, crosscut saws, chains, garden tools, scythes, articles too numerous to mention—a most varied collection.

A cook stove was an unknown luxury. The women prepared the meals in the open fireplace. The pots hung from cranes on either side, or rested on a tripod over the coals. Baking was done in a castiron "Dutch oven" with concave top. When placed upon coals and then covered with them, it became very hot. Large bakings when necessary, were done in stone ovens built out of doors. A fire was made in these to heat the stones, then removed and the heated rocks did the rest.

The family of the Bruces consisted of the parents, two daughters and three sons. An interesting and significant fact was the development

among themselves of an efficiency and resourcefulness which very nearly supplied all the immediate needs of their family life.

In addition to the care of cattle, sheep and farm crops, each of the men tried to perfect himself in a trade useful in his isolated position. One was a carpenter, another a blacksmith; a third was a shoemaker with tools to work in leather.

The girls for their part, in addition to the daily routine, planted and tended the garden, made soap and candles, washed, carded and dyed the wool, spun it into yarn, then wove it into blankets and clothing upon the large loom which stood at one side of the sitting room. Some of the dress patterns in stripe or check were very attractive and for quality would excite the envy of their sisters from the city. From the dyed yarn, socks and mits, as well as jackets were knit for winter use.

Ironing was done with a high hollow iron with wooden handle—a semi-chimney at the point and a sliding draft at the rear. Into this charcoal was placed and when lighted the draft would regulate the heat. Today these irons are old-time relics and sought after by collectors, as are the long-handled warming pans.

In the fall apples were pared, cored, then cut in pieces and boiled over a fire out of doors in large copper kettles to make apple butter. This was the women's work and it meant an all-day job of stirring with a long-handled forked stick to keep the apples from burning. Spices were

added and when cool it was put away in earthen jars for winter use.

In March when the sap began to rise in the maple sugar trees, all equipment was made ready for "the run". Trees were tapped and the sap boiled down into syrup or sugar in large iron kettles. The resulting sugar supplied all sweetening through the year for preserving and all other family wants.

The men reaped the small grain with a cradle and threshed it with a flail. As there were no cellars in these primitive log houses, potatoes, roots and other vegetables were buried in the garden in a mound. Straw was placed on the ground and the crop to be housed was built in a circular pyramid, thatched with straw and the latter covered with a foot of earth from a trench surrounding it.

The furnishings of the home were of the simplest character and largely of local manufacture, all made to last for several generations. The chairs were turned from hickory wood and the seats plated from thin hickory withes. There were few cupboards, but from the ceiling hung skeins of yarn, corn in the ear for next year's planting, gourds, baskets, packages of garden seeds with other articles of every description.

The walls were decorated with antlers and an occasional stuffed owl or hawk; over the backs of the chairs hung home-tanned skins of the fox or coon and on the floor were deer and bear skin rugs.

The food provided was most bountiful, for in addition to the yield of the garden, which had been plowed

by the men and tended by the women, all of the things which nature herself furnished, were gathered and taken advantage of; the small fruits, such as service, strawberries and blackberries, were preserved for winter use. The tender shoots of the pokeberry, when they came up in early spring, were nearly as good as asparagus.

Wheat was not raised, although buckwheat was a staple crop—its flour ground at a local water mill was the "bread" of the family, served in the form of cakes the full size of the griddle, three times daily. Variety was obtained by the "sauce" that was eaten with them—brown gravy, apple butter, honey, maple syrup or some preserve.

Eggs, bacon, home-cured hams, poultry, an occasional lamb, wild turkey, pheasant, rabbit or squirrel, with trout from mountain streams, supplied the more substantial wants.

Where there were several men or guests, they sat at the table; the women waited and served.

When the early frost opened the burs of the beech trees and the little triangular, sweet, oily nuts covered the ground, the hogs were turned onto this "mast", and no other food was necessary to fatten them. When butchered and their hams cured in hickory smoke, they furnished the sweetest "Beech Nut Bacon."

There were few game laws in those days and such as they were noted more in their breach than in their observance. Deer, turkeys, pheasants and rabbits abounded; often a bear

made a raid on the sheep or into the pig pen.

Room and accommodations would always be provided for a visitor if he could stay. Then one of the sons would take down the rifle and after an hour or less in the woods would return with a "mountain mutton" that had all the taste of young venison.

In addition to hunting and trout fishing, one of the pastimes of the men was to find and cut a "bee tree" for its wild honey. On a bright day a little syrup or honey would be placed on a stone or piece of bark and the watcher would sit down and wait. Before long the "bait" would be discovered and a bee would settle there and load himself with the sugar, rise slowly to gain altitude, then strike a "bee line" to a hollow tree, the home of the swarm. The course taken by the first bee was carefully noted. The watcher would then move to a new point some hundred yards from the first and repeat his experiment. The second bee when satisfied would also return to the hive and give a new course in his flight. Where these two courses met at the apex of the triangle would be found the tree containing the honey. Should the hive be some distance from the first point, the bait would have to be put out several times, each time nearer to the apex of the triangle.

Communication with the outside world was done entirely on horseback. Grain for the mill and such supplies as were brought in were packed in sacks on the horse's back. When articles were too bulky or heavy to carry on a

horse, he was hitched to a home-made wooden sled, for there was not a wheel upon the place.

Money was a scarce article, so barter and trade had to supply the lack. Poultry, eggs and articles that would be taken at the store, were given in exchange for salt, coffee, tea, spices and tobacco. The miller took his toll in flour when he ground the buckwheat. Usually the trading was done by the "women folk" who went to the store with a basket of eggs on their arms and other things tied behind the saddles.

Let each reader conjure for himself what Nature will provide where there is the will, and the way to conserve and use her bounty, as in this Arcadia, where busy hands made time to woo her.

Today the original family has gone; the log house has been pulled down and in its stead a modern farm house has risen. A large part of the sugar camp has been cut and its wood turned into parts for auto frames; some of the sons turn to mining and public works. A good dirt road has been made to the new railway and stores a few miles distant, telephone and radio installed, while the automobile gives quick and easy access to the outside world.

Query: Are the present owners more happy and contented than their predecessors?

NOTE—The name "Bruce" does not refer to any particular family, but is used here by Mr. Brown to illustrate in general the lives of pioneer families of this region.



# Indian Warfare

*Editor's note: From the June 1942 issue of the Glades Star comes this account of Indian wars in this part of the country. Its author is unknown.*

There were no white settlers in what is now Garrett County at the time of the French and Indian War (1754-1763), when Col. Washington marched his colonial army over Nemacolin's Path to Ft. Necessity, followed by Gen. Braddock's expedition in 1755 over the same general route. After Braddock's tragic retreat from Ft. Duquesne, French and Indians roamed our area at will until Gen. Forbes captured Ft. Duquesne in 1758. France claimed the country as far east as the top of the Great Back Bone Mountain.

Ft. Morris was built at the outbreak of the Shawnee War of 1774, by the Sandy Creek settlers, who also organized a company of "Spies and Rangers" to protect the settlements. Due to these measures of preparedness our people were not molested during the Revolutionary War, when parties of ten to fifty warriors crossed the Ohio and attacked the settlements as far east as the Maryland line, keeping the settlers of what is now Preston county in almost constant alarm.

## ATTACKS ON WHEELING

In 1774 Ft. Henry, at Wheeling, was built by order of the commanding officer at Ft. Pitt, to defend the settlements east of the Ohio.

On September 1, 1777, three hundred eighty-nine British and In-

dians attacked Ft. Henry, which was defended by only thirty-three men; assisted by their women and children the settlers repulsed the enemy, who recrossed the river, after burning the houses, destroying the crops and killing the cattle.

Col. Ebenezer Zane was in command at Ft. Henry, when, on September 11, 1782, John Lynn reported Capt. Pratt with forty British soldiers and two hundred sixty Indians marching rapidly to take it by surprise. Hastily calling in the settlers, the defenders killed about forty of the attacking Indians without the loss of a man. On September 13th the enemy withdrew across the Ohio. This is often referred to as "the last battle of the Revolution."

Small parties of Indians made several attacks upon the settlements east of the Ohio in 1778. Daniel Lewis was killed while splitting rails near Cheat River. The same raiding party killed John Green and his family, except Mary, whom they wounded and kept prisoner several years. Mary Green later married Joseph Friend of Friendsville.

In April, 1778, Indians came to the home of William Morgan at Dunkard Bottom on Cheat, killed a young man named Brain, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Dillon and two children, and took another Mrs. Morgan and child prisoners.

John Minear was the leader of a settlement in the Horse Shoe Bend

of Cheat in 1774. A fort was built at what is now St. George, W. Va. In March, 1780, a large Indian war party lurked about the fort but feared to attack. Finally Jonathan and others went down the river to their farms. Minear was killed and his brother-in-law, Washburn, was captured. The next morning a party pursued the Indians and rescued Washburn.

#### SNOWY CREEK MASSACRE

James Brain and his family spent the winter of 1777-78 at the Friend Fort. In the spring the Brain and Powell families began a settlement near where the Glades Path crossed Snowy Creek, later the Joseph DeBerry farm at Corinth, W. Va.

Withers in his book, "Border Warfare", says:

On the eleventh of the same month (April, 1778) five Indians came to a house on Snowy Creek, in which lived James Brain and Richard Powell, and remained in ambush during the night, close around it. In the morning early the appearance of some ten or twelve men issuing from the house with guns, for the purpose of amusing themselves by shooting at a mark, deterred the Indians from making their meditated attack. The men seen by them were travelers, who had associated for mutual security, and whom after partaking of a morning's repast, resumed their journey unknown to the savages.

When Mr. Brain and the sons of Mr. Powell went to their day's work, being engaged in carrying clapboards for covering a cabin at some distance from the house, they

were soon heard by the Indians, who, despairing of succeeding in an attack on the house, changed their position and concealed themselves by the side of the path along which those engaged at work had to go. Mr. Brain and one of his sons being a little distance in front of them, they fired and Brain fell. He was then tomahawked and scalped, while another of the party followed and caught the son as he was attempting to escape by flight.

Three other boys were then some distance and out of sight; hearing the report of the gun which had killed Brain, for an instant supposed that it proceeded from the rifle of some hunter in quest of deer. They were soon satisfied that this supposition was unfounded. Three Indians came running toward them, bearing their guns in one hand and their tomahawks in the other. One of the boys, stupefied by terror and unable to stir from the spot, was immediately made prisoner; another, the son of Powell, was also soon caught, but the third, finding himself out of sight of his pursuer, ran to one side and concealed himself in a bunch of alders, where he remained until the Indian passed the spot where he lay, when he arose and taking a different direction, ran with all his speed and effected an escape. The little prisoners were then brought together, and one of Mr. Powell's sons, being discovered to have but one eye, was stripped naked, had a tomahawk sunk into his head, a spear ran through his body and the scalp then removed from his bleeding head.

The little Powell who had

escaped from the savages, being forced to go in a direction opposite from the house proceeded to a station about eight miles off and communicated intelligence of what had been done at Brain's. A party of men equipped themselves and went immediately to the scene of action, but the Indians had hastened homeward as soon as they perpetrated their horrible cruelties.

So stilly had the whole affair been conducted (the report of a un being too commonly heard to excite any suspicion of what was doing) and so had the little boy who had escaped and the men who accompanied him on the way back, moved in their course, that the first intimation given Mrs. Brain of the fate of her husband was given by the men who came in pursuit.

Note:—One of the captured boys, Ben Brain, was later released, and resided near Bruceton Mills, W. Va.

After the Revolutionary War three American armies, commanded by Generals St. Clair, Crawford and Harmar, were defeated in the Ohio country. Following up each victory the Indians spread fire and death in the border settlements.

Meshack Browning arrived in the Glades in 1791 with his Uncle John Spurgin. They lived a few months on the abandoned Friend settlement at the Buffalo Marsh (McHenry). Browning wrote:

"Things went on well enough until the news came to us that General St. Clair's whole army had been defeated and cut to pieces. This was such frightening

news, that aunt was almost ready to leave all, and seek some better place of safety; and indeed I believe Uncle too was a little frightened. Be that as it may, he continued but a short time until he took up his march again for the Blooming Rose. In that neighborhood there were some thirty or forty families, who were not so easily frightened."

At the battle of Fallen Timbers, August 20, 1794, a Federal army, commanded by Gen. Anthony Wayne, defeated a large Indian army. The settlements east of the Ohio were never again alarmed by the red men.

#### OLD FORT MORRIS

Fort Morris was built by the Sandy Creek settlers in 1774 at what is now Glade Farms, W. Va., near the Maryland-Virginia boundary.

In his History of Preston County Wiley says:

In the "Sandy Creek Glades" this fort was standing on the land of Richard Morris. In fear of a threatened attack from the Indians, the whites from Washington Co., Pa., and from towards Morgantown flocked here for safety.

It was a stockade fort, on a run emptying into Little Sandy, graced by the more practical than euphonious name of "Hog Run." After a time the men returned to their clearings, but left most of their women and children at the fort with a small guard. They drank the water from the run in low marshy ground, and had something like ague. A cabin or two enclosed by saplings eight or ten feet high driven into the earth two or three feet, inclosing about an acre on the run constituted the fort.



The father of Rev. Joseph Doddridge settled in 1773 in "Washington Co., Pa. In his *Notes On The Settlement And Indian Wars* Rev. Doddridge says:

Those most atrocious murders of the peaceable inoffensive Indians at Captina and Yellow Creek brought on the War of Lord Dunmore (Shawnee war) in the Spring of the Year 1774. Our little settlement then broke up. The women and children were removed to Morris' fort in Sandy creek glade, some distance to the east of Uniontown, The fort con-

sisted of an assemblage of small hovels, situated on the margin of a large and noxious marsh, the effluvia of which gave the most of the women and children the fever and ague. The men were compelled by necessity to return home, and risk the tomahawk and scalping knife of the Indians, in raising corn to keep their families from starvation the succeeding winter. Those sufferings, dangers and losses, were the tribute we had to pay to that thirst for blood which actuated those veteran murderers who brought the war upon us!



**Ku Klux Klan**

**W. K. K. K.**

Kitzmiller, Md.

**This was a full-page ad in the 1927 *Kitzy-Hi* Yearbook.**

# Garrett County and the Civil War

by Ross C. Durst

*Editor's note: This article details Garrett County's part in the Civil War. It comes from the June 1961 issue of the Glades Star.*

At the time of the Civil War, Garrett County had not yet come into existence, but was a part of Allegany County. For the sake of brevity, however, in this account it will be referred to as Garrett County. Except for the B. & O. R. R., there was little in the area of military value. Consequently, it escaped the loss and destruction suffered by many

communities. The county made a notable contribution to the war effort in the form of the food-stuff produced. Livestock, especially horses, were in great demand. They were needed for the cavalry, the artillery and for the supply wagons. Her greatest contribution, of course, was the large number of her sturdy sons who went forth to serve in the various branches of the service. Most of them were volunteers, as the draft was not used until late in the war.



Attending a picnic of Civil War veterans at Bittinger, circa 1900. Back row standing, left to right, Patterson Engle, Charles Hetrick, Henry Swauger, Thomas Henry Bittinger, George D. Kenner. Seated, Rev. J.B. Shoup, Thomas B. Wiley, William Raley, Michael Custer, Noah Bittinger.



**Captain James A. Hayden, 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, founded *The Republican* in 1877 and was its first editor.**

#### THE G. A. R.

The Grand Army of the Republic was organized in the winter of 1865. It was a patriotic, non-partisan organization. It was responsible for the institution of Memorial Day and it originated the practice of placing American flags on the graves of servicemen. In its day it had a membership of nearly half a million. By the terms of the charter granted by Congress, it was to have no successor. Hence as the members died, the posts gradually closed and most of the records were lost.

Sherman Post No. 11 at Friendsville was one of the oldest in the state. At one time it had a large membership as there was an unusually large number of veterans in that area. Unfortunately, no records of the officers and members have been located. If

any reader knows of the location of such records, The Garrett County Historical Society would appreciate hearing about them. It is known that at one time Benjamin Friend served as Senior Vice-Commander; George E. Bishoff was Adjutant and Leslie Friend was Chaplain.

Crook Post No. 35 in Oakland was named in honor of Gen. George Crook. The only available roster of the post was printed in *The Glades Star*, June 30, 1949 and showed a membership of 63 with A. G. Sturgiss as Commander. The date of the list is not known.

For many years, G.A.R. Encampments were held at Mt. Lake Park in connection with the Chautauqua. Both Union and Confederate veterans participated. More than half a century has passed since their last bugle call died away. Now they sleep peaceably side by side in quiet little cemeteries over the land. All that remains for us is a haunting memory of an heroic tragedy.

#### THE P. H. B.

The organization of the Poto-mac Home Brigade was begun in the western part of the state in August 1861 by the Hon. Francis Thomas, Member of Congress. Twenty years earlier he had been Garrett County's only governor of Maryland. The Brigade consisted of the 1st., the 2nd. and the 3rd. Regiments Infantry and Cole's Cavalry Regiment. The initial recruiting produced about 3000 men but during the war, about 7000 men would serve in the brigade. Mr. Thomas returned to Congress.



The 2nd. and 3rd. Regiments seem to have been the choice of *most* Garrett County men, although a goodly number who could furnish their own horses, joined Cole's Cavalry. This colorful outfit rode 7000 miles and took part in about 80 engagements.

In the battle of Gettysburg, the 1st. Regiment found itself pitted against the 1st. Md. Regiment, Confederate. In the battle of Monocacy, the 3rd. Reg. fought side by side with the troops under Gen. Lew Wallace, author of Ben Hur.

#### MARYLAND VOLUNTEERS IN THE U. S. NAVY

The Navy's vital part in winning the war has been generally overlooked because of the more dramatic land battles. Maryland contributed about 7000 men to the Navy and the Marine Corps but a comparatively small number were from Garrett County.

#### U. S. COLORED TROOPS, MARYLAND VOLUNTEERS

Soon after the President's Proclamation of Emancipation, Maryland began recruiting colored troops. This was done over the protests of Secretary of War Stanton who believed that only white troops should bear arms. Garrett contributed only a handful because the colored population was small.

#### OTHER STATE REGIMENTS

Garrett men enlisted wherever it was most convenient. In the southern part of the county, it was more convenient to join a West Virginia regiment than to travel all the way to



**John B. Fay in 1861, McNeill's Rangers. Planned, scouted and helped execute the daring and spectacular capture of Generals Crook and Kelley at Cumberland in February, 1865.—Drawing by Barbara Moon.**

Cumberland. Along the Pennsylvania border, many chose to enlist in one of the Pennsylvania regiments. Those choosing to join the Confederacy, found Virginia convenient and willing. Several descriptions of McNeill's Partisan Rangers have been printed in previous issues of *The Star*. At the close of the war, many Confederate records were lost or destroyed in fear of reprisals. Some of the Southern states paid state pensions many years later. W. C. Buncutter was one Garrett County boy that received a pension from Virginia.

#### PENSIONERS

A Government report issued in 1883 listed 30 men and 9 dependents for Garrett County as receiving a government pension. Apparently the Government was not as generous

in those times as at present. Three of the pensioners received \$1.00 per month. The average of the entire group was less than \$6.00 per month. The top figure of \$30.00 per month was awarded to Conrad Myers for an amputated right arm and a gun-shot wound in the right leg.

The following widows were listed: Sarah Paugh, Oakland; Rebecca Hoopes, Oakland; Mary Bowman, Accident and Margaret J. Moon, Deer Park. Two mothers of veterans were Mary Waltz, Oakland and Harriett Frazee, Friendsville. Perhaps the real surprise was the fact that 3 widows of the War of 1812 were still receiving pensions. They were Malinda Bray, Oakland; Eva Lee, Oakland and Delilah McCrobie, Swanton.

#### WHAT WAS A VETERAN?

In Civil War time, a veteran was anyone who served out one enlistment (regardless of length), and then re-enlisted. In the beginning, short enlistments were taken; 90 days and 100 days. Later this was increased to one year; finally to 3 years. Enlistments "For the duration of the War" were first used in World War I. In the Civil War, if a man's enlistment ran out in the middle of a battle, he simply picked up his gear and went home.

#### SUBSTITUTES

When the Conscription Act was passed, late in the War, there was no provision for exemption of men with families. It did provide, however, that if a man could find a substitute, he would take the place of the draftee. A number of such cases

turned up in our research. However, since the name of the substitute could not be learned, no names were given.

#### SOUTHERN SYMPATHIZERS

Maryland was considered to be a southern state and it was believed she would follow Virginia out of the Union. The Legislature was overwhelmingly for secession. Had Maryland seceded, the nation's capital would have been an island completely surrounded by seceded territory. The B.&O.R.R., the National Road and the Northwestern Turnpike would have been closed to the Union. President Lincoln took vigorous action to prevent secession. The leading members of the Legislature were clapped into jail and kept there until it was assured there would be no secession.

Just as Maryland was a border state, so was Garrett County a border county. She was bordered on the west and the south by Virginia. It was in this area that most of the sympathy for the South existed. A number of regiments were organized in Virginia, composed of Maryland men and they fought with the South under the Maryland banner. When the Confederate boys returned to Garrett County, they were denied the right to vote by the Board of Elections. It was generally believed that all who had fought against the Union would be disfranchised. A court battle ensued which had to be carried to the Court of Appeals before their right of franchise was confirmed.

# Garrett County Historical Society

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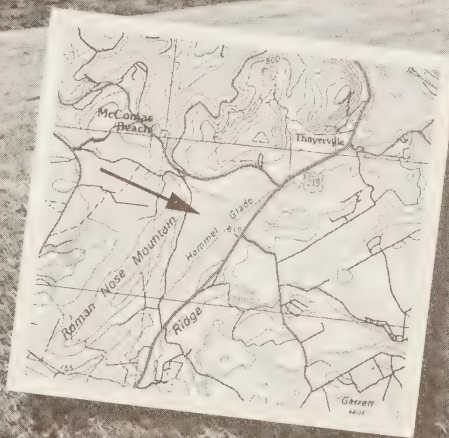
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## *Glādsome Places*



*(see story page 539)*

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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# Gladsome Places

by Paul Durham

Visitors to Garrett County admire us for our mountains. A summer trip to the cool tablelands of Western Maryland is at the top of many a vacation itinerary. It is hard to imagine that we were once very well known for something far less amazing than the height of our mountain ridges.

When the first settlers reached the Garrett County area in the 1700s, they found a rich and varied landscape that in many ways reminded them of their former lands. German settlers, coming in from the north and east, found areas with rich soils and rolling hills, much like northern Europe or eastern Pennsylvania. Scots-Irish settlers, from the south and east, after working their way along the National Road or up the river valleys found our mountains and those in Virginia and the Carolinas to be much like the wild highlands of their home countries.

Some held on for a while longer in the tidewater areas, but eventually they too saw promise and opportunity in the western reaches of Maryland as the country's frontier pushed into the Ohio region. Each of these cultural groups brought with them traditions, words, and sayings that remain with us today in the geographic names of many local places and points of interest.

Our word "*glad*" is a pleasant word and it evokes feelings of sunny summer days, memories of dances and picnics, our first love, or how

we often feel when a hard chore is done. The origin of the word "*glad*" is thought to go back in time to before the 1500s in England. Some etymologists (people who study words) think it was probably brought to them by the Scandinavians in the 700s or 800s with roots in that culture's words for "light", "illuminating", "clear", and "bright". So, in a sense, "*glad*" originally meant something akin to "bright" and was most likely pronounced "*glād*", or as we would spell it today, *glade*. A *glād* place was sunny and bright, an open spot in the forest, a natural clearing, a perfect place for a picnic, for relaxation, and for *gladsome* times. "*Glad*" and "*glade*" both have their root meanings in the same idea and early settlers to the area knew that a "*glade*" meant a fine place for settlement.

The myth of America's dense forest primeval did not apply to the area now known as Garrett County. When the early settlers arrived here in the late 1700s and early 1800s, they encountered a diverse landscape; virgin oak and white pine forests, mountain ridges, vast open meadows, and scattered marshes and wetlands now understood to be damp remnants of the last great Ice Age. Early explorers on the frontier even reported the presence of bison (or buffalo), a grazing herd animal, which would have required thousands of acres of open fields and meadows, or glades,



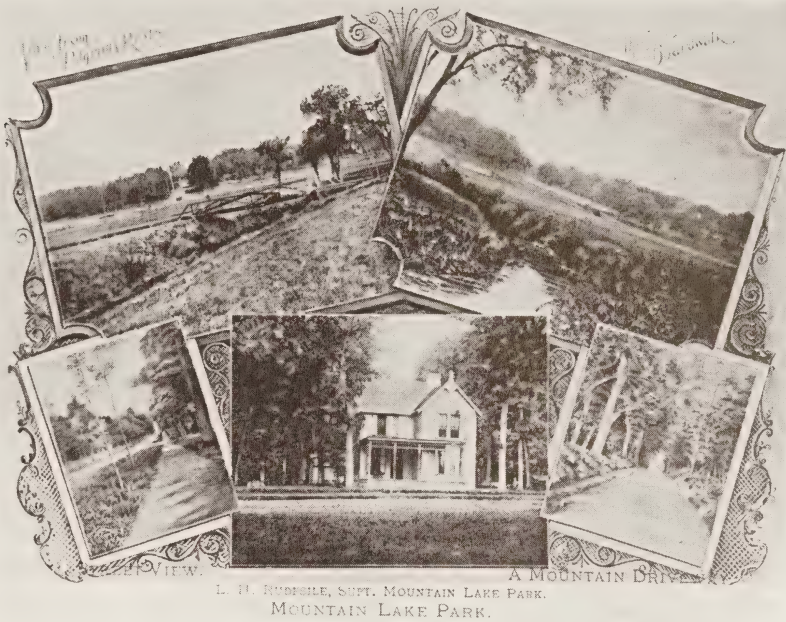
Oakland even had a "Glades Hotel" which was visited by many dignitaries, including a three week recuperation by Jefferson Davis on the advice of his physician. For five years after becoming a county, court was usually held at the Glades Hotel. The Glades Hotel got its name from nearby "Youghioghney Glades". Image from Maryland State Archives.

in order to thrive.

Local tradition holds that the *Green Glade* area was first visited in 1764 by the family of John Friend, an early settler in Garrett County. Later, the area was settled by a group of pioneers who wrote about how delighted they were with their surroundings, the fertility of the soil, the clear gushing springs and the natural meadows. And fortunate these settlers must have been, to be able to turn first to the plow rather than the axe to prepare their new farms. The natural meadows were perfect for new farmers who very much wanted to avoid the hard clearing needed to settle in a forested country. And how glad to encounter these meadows, these *glades*, the settlers must have been.

Even then, life appears to have still been difficult for some. In 1820, John McHenry (who had settled in "*Buffalo Marsh*," now McHenry) wrote to his brother in Baltimore lamenting the exodus of his many neighbors from the area.

*"What shall we do when all our neighbours leave us" wrote McHenry, "is there no agreeable family disposed to renounce the pinching savingness of a curtailed fortune in the city, for the generous economy of rustic life? I know of no country better suited than this for such a change, a country not obnoxious to the unwholesome damps and vapors, of thick forests-river bottoms but a continued suite of glades with a perspective through groves of white oak from one glade to another,*



Early post cards from Garrett County often had pictures of glades and meadows to attract tourists and investors to the area. Image from Garrett County Historic Society collection.

*each presenting a variety of prospect of hills and valleys, and thro' each valley flows a stream of pure spring water in a deep, narrow channel, which the freshness of the air thro' the summer season always keeps cool."*

No, as John McHenry describes, the "unwholesome damps and vapors" of the forest primeval was not to be found here. Rather, there were the bright glades, open meadows and wetlands interspersed by groves of trees. These were very much gladsome places that would be attractive to new settlement.

Later in the 1800s, The Garrett County, Maryland Directory of 1878 reported that Garrett County "is about one-third glade, interspersed regularly by

ridge or timber land, and is admitted to be the best grazing portion of the State; is only partially settled, and offers superior advantages for farming and stock raising."<sup>2</sup> One-third glade . . . now we can understand why our mountaintop was also known as "The Glades District."

A Maryland Geologic Survey report from 1902 notes a number of well established glades along many local watercourses, including Deep Creek and the Youghiogheny River. The presence of these glades was attributed to the geology of the local rock strata which weathering and stream erosion has not yet destroyed, as is often seen in distinct stream valleys. The Survey also noted that the glades "furnish incentive and





**Hammel Glade today—as seen from Mayhew Inn Road.**

opportunity for farming communities, which are reasonably well recompensed for their efforts in tilling the soil".<sup>3</sup>

Early settlers with the freedom of geographic license left us with many of the original names for our glades. Green Glade along southern Deep Creek Lake, *Hammel Glade* (seen from Mayhew Inn Road), *North Glade*, *Cherry Creek Glades* (or simply, The Glades), *Teen Glade* (Mellott Road area west of Mount Nebo), *Spring Glade* (north of Oakland), *Asher Glade*, *Glades Hundreds*, *Youghiogheny Glades* . . . the list goes on and other names have probably been lost to time. One early settler, John Ryan, lived long enough on his glade to see it forever bear his family's name: *Ryan's Glade*. Ryan's lands were located in southern Garrett County and were known as an early settlement on McCullough's Path.

Glades seem to have been the preferred place to live in the early days of the county. Although most are no

longer wild and open, their usefulness and popularity is still marked by farming and settlement. From some of the place names that are still used, it appears that nearby counties in West Virginia and Pennsylvania also had an early glades geography. However, it appears that Garrett County has the deepest roots in its glades heritage.

When citizens from Allegany County petitioned the state legislature in January 1872 to partition a new county from the westernmost portion of the state, they suggested two names: Garrett County and *Glade County*. Perhaps the political connections of the railroad magnate John Garrett held more sway in the halls of the Maryland State House than did the beauty of our landscape. In any event, the petition for the new county was later ratified by the local electorate in November 1872 and Garrett County we became.

Decided at the same time was the Town of Oakland as the county seat. Oakland won out over the two other

contenders, Grantsville and McHenry's Glades, the area formerly known as Buffalo Marsh of John McHenry fame. Had McHenry's Glades won, perhaps we may never have seen Deep Creek Lake, as certainly nobody would have wanted to see their grand county seat flooded out by a dam!

Gladsome places they all must have been, these Glades. Memories of open sunny fields, soil ready for the plow, bright summer picnics and game in abundance. Perhaps we may have missed the mark when we failed to choose "Glades" as the name for our county.

*"Where'er you walk,  
cool gales shall fan the glade  
Trees, where you sit,  
shall crowd into a shade:*

*Where'er you tread,  
the blusing flow'rs shall rise,  
And all things flourish  
where you turn your eyes."*

Alexander Pope (English poet 1688-1744)



**Map showing scenic Hammel Glade off of Mayhew Inn Road. Foster Road traverses the length of the original glade. (Courtesy US Geologic Survey)**

#### END NOTES:

1 "Old McHenry Letters," *The Glades Star*, September 30, 1946, pp. 185-189

2 *Garrett County, Maryland Directory - 1878* <http://www.newrivernotes.com/md/garr1878.htm>

3 *Maryland Geologic Survey, Volume 6*, The Johns Hopkins Press 1906 (a state publication), page 92

*Based in Oakland, Maryland, Paul Durham is a writer and photographer whose work reflects a lifetime love affair with parks and heritage sites. Paul's career includes 27 years as a park ranger and conservation professional. His work can be seen online at his website at [www.heritageresourcephoto.com](http://www.heritageresourcephoto.com)*

# *Memories From the Great Depression in Oakland and Aurora*

*by Kenneth Legge Hardesty*

Many times through the years I think back to times during the Great Depression. Some were good and some were bad. As a youngster growing up in Aurora and Oakland some things or events seem to linger in my mind. In Aurora I would notice the WPA (Work Projects Administration, a program set up by the Franklin Roosevelt administration to provide jobs) workers repairing the road in front of our home—we called them “We Poke Along.” There were a lot of men working and a lot loafing—leaning on their shovels. I would go out and talk with them. I remember them saying they were paid 25 cents per hour. All in all they did a lot of good in the area.

My grandfather, Ernest Schrock was postmaster in Aurora from 1926 to 1947. His annual salary was \$1,380.00 per year, and the post office was located in a room at the far end of his house facing the highway. At certain times during the year a food produce truck carrying food for the needy would arrive at the post office. The truck also brought onion skin bags in which to carry the food and a list of those who would receive the food. My grandfather would place a school desk on the post office front

porch and give me the list of names so that I could mark off the people as they took their food. The bags usually contained a block of cheese, butter, a bag of flour, oranges, and canned food. I remember watching the people. I recall one old lady in particular, Icy Moats, tall, slim and looking so sickly, coming through the snow with bare feet and no coat.

I remember taking eggs to Stemple's store in Aurora—sometimes we couldn't sell the eggs—and when we did, we had to take “script”—metal coins with 50 cents, or whatever their worth, stamped on the coin. Ira Hardesty clerked in the store, and later became its owner. He also cut hair and sold bags of feed for farm animals. The feed was stored in the back area of the store. In the center of the store was a coal-burning stove with a coal bucket alongside. Local “loafers” used it as a spittoon. A number of chairs and stools were around the stove and along the counter, which was piled high with work shirts and pants. There were other tables, too, with shoes. The shirts sold for 50 cents, the shoes, \$1.00 a pair.

Some of the older families seemed to have funds to tide them over the depression. My grandfather was like





**The Leighton Garage on Third Street, 1927. Floyd Leighton and Peter Miller stand in front.**

the local "banker;" he kept an Armour Fertilizer book in his vest all the time and would loan out money to his friends in need. I remember one person, Ward Moats, who lived out on "Mountain Top." He had a small farm and also worked at the local saw mill that was owned by Edsie Bland. Ward borrowed \$100.00 from my grandfather and would stop by every week when he was paid to give my grandfather a little on his debt. One Saturday he told my grandfather he couldn't pay because he had 11 children to feed. Ward offered his Jersey milk cow in payment but my grandfather told Ward to keep his cow for his family and to make payments whenever he had any extra money. My grandfather never lost money that he loaned his friends, and I could never find any record that he ever charged interest.

A lot of excitement occurred

in the community when the First National Bank in Terra Alta closed its doors. The cashier-president of the bank walked into his office one morning, sat down at his desk, and shot himself. Remarks were that a lot of bad investments had been made.

My father had the Hudson-Terraplane garage in Oakland during the depression, located on Liberty St. in what is now a vacant lot next to St. Matthew's. His cousin, Harvey Sanders, worked with him and lived with us on South Third St. Harvey learned the mechanic trade from my father and later started the Sanders and Hershman Garage in the same building my father had. George Breuninger was the "gas boy" and handled the front end of the garage. George later went to work for his cousin, Alva "Pockie" Gortner at her shoe store.

The depression forced my fa-

ther out of the garage business. He bought a house on Oak St. from Paul McIntire who owned a hardware store where the Circuit Court Building is now located on Third St. My father paid \$1,000.00 for the house in 1934.

Local attorney, Bill Offutt, helped my people during the depression by holding their mortgages. My wife's uncle, Floyd Leighton borrowed \$5,000.00 from Bill to start the Buick garage where Sheetz is now located. Bill Offutt was known by almost all Garrett County residents as a good lawyer and shrewd investor. One story that circulated around town about him happened around 1939. Bill would go into Hinebaugh's Restaurant at the corner of Second and Green Sts. every morning for a cup of coffee, which cost 5 cents at that time. He would always put down a \$50.00 bill, and, of course, Mr. Hinebaugh never had change for such a large bill so early in the morning. Mr. Hinebaugh and some of the regulars decided that the next time Mr. Offutt came in for coffee with a \$50.00 bill they would have a surprise for him. They pooled their money and changed Mr. Offutt's bill. Thereafter, he always put down a nickel for his coffee.

The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps, another one of President Roosevelt's job programs during the depression) was very active in Garrett County, especially in the state parks. Two of our neighbors, George Wellington and Bill McRobie, were in the program working at Swallow Falls and Herrington Manor. On week-

ends they would come home to their families on Oak St. I could always tell when the trucks bringing them home arrived. George would start cussing and his mother would come flying out the door yelling, "George, quit your cussing! What will the neighbors think?" There was no way one could change George—he was always like that. Bill, on the other hand was just the opposite. He also loved food and would make a dash for our back door to get some of my mother's good cooking.

During the depression, transients or "tramps" frequently came into our area, mainly because of the railroad on which they could "hitch a ride." They would come to our back door asking for food. She always fed them egg sandwiches. Eggs were always in abundance from the farm.

Dick and Bill Shaffer operated a taxi service from an old building near the B&O railroad station. The taxi cabs were parked on the ground floor of the building and upstairs was a "hangout" for drinking and playing poker. When a person would call for a cab they were asked if it was for a long ride or a short ride. The "long ride" was for a quart of moonshine, the "short ride" was for a pint. There were some high-stake poker games that went on upstairs. Numerous properties would often change hands in the course of a game. I remember my uncle losing his business in one of the games. My father won \$500.00 there one night, but drinking too much he forgot where he hid the money when he got home late.

Mother heard about the money but was unable to get him to remember where it was. About a year later she was cleaning the spare bedroom and found a bulge in the carpet under the bed. There was the \$500.00. She found it. When my father came home she told him of the find, and shortly thereafter they purchased a new 1938 Buick with the money.

Bill Shaffer had a farm in the Sunnyside area of Garrett County where he made moonshine for the

taxi service deliveries. As the depression started to fade, Bill and his wife Carrie, started a restaurant in a building at the corner of Oak and Third Sts., which they called "Carrie's Restaurant." A darn good place to eat. The Veterans' Park is located there now.

The depression years have passed; I think it was a good time for me to grow up. The experiences have been very meaningful for me and how I have managed my life.

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## *Museum Installs Chair Lift*

In August Mon Health Care installed a "state-of-the-art" chair lift on the long, tall stairway to the second floor. The chair lift was given to the Historical Society by Mary Virginia Jones along with relatives and friends of the late Judge Lewis R. Jones. Judge Jones was aware of the need for this conveyance and was very supportive of the project. A memorial plaque in his memory will be installed at the foot of the stairs.

Now the museum building is truly "handicapped accessible." The lift will benefit both museum employees and the rental offices whose rent the museum very much needs in order to keep it "admission free."





## *Mac Mathias and J.D. Watkins*



**Mac Mathias and family with President Eisenhower, August 7, 1962.**

In 1962, Republican representative Mac Mathias decided to run for the United State Senate. Mac was extremely popular in Garrett County and had many supporters in the local areas. To gain support for his campaign, Mac decided to hold a photo opportunity at his farm just above Frederick, MD. Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower attended the photo opportunity and gave a speech showing his support for Mac to be elected. All the local television and news stations attended the event, as well as many local newspaper photographers and campaign photographers.

J.D. Watkins, a local retired photographer, was working for a local newspaper at the time and attended the event at the farm. There were so many photographers and news stations there that they were divided into three groups to cycle through the house. J.D. was awaiting his turn when a member of Mac's party tapped him on the shoulder and told him that he was allowed to stay for the duration of the event. J.D. captured several priceless photos of Mac's family interacting with former President Eisenhower and has since donated most of those negatives to the Rockville Historical

Society. J.D. also noted that he was actually the campaign photographer for the man running on the Democratic ticket and came to Garrett County to campaign for him. When he visited a local businessman for a meeting, J.D. was told that in Garrett County you could be a staunch Democrat but you still always voted for Mac Mathias when his name came up. J.D. inquired as to why this was

and the man said, "Well, because Mac comes up here all the time and helps out the citizens of Garrett County. And you guys only come up when its time to cast a ballot." J.D. noted that Mac won that election and the 6th District, including Garrett County, were the votes that gave him the win.

**J.D. Watkins, now an Oakland resident, holding a photographer's retouching stand at the Garrett County Historical Society Museum.**



## *Retouching Stand*

Retouching stand, circa late 1800s. Provided an illuminated work surface to view and support a film negative to which lead was applied by a special pencil, to alter the image i.e. eliminate age lines or flaws in the skin surface.

The mirror was adjustable to catch and direct light from different sources such as sunlight, candle, and oil lamps. The construction allowed it to be adjustable and to fold compactly, which made it portable and could be used by itinerant photographers.

# *“Rebby” “Cubby” “Scotty”*

*by John A. Grant*

These names were nicknames, of course, but to boys and young men living in Oakland, Md. in 1933-1935 they were names in the realm of kings. They were the nicknames of three barnstorming pilots who used to fly their airplanes into Weber's Field across the B&O railroad tracks from Weber's Greenhouses, just south of Oakland, on summer weekends. Usually they would announce their presence by flying at very low altitude over the town about 11 o'clock on Saturday morning and bid "farewell" the same way on Sunday evening. Quite often two of these pilots would appear on the same weekend and they always flew over town as they took passengers up for rides from Weber's Field. As near as I remember, a ride around town and to Deep Creek Lake, costs \$5.00 per person.

(It would be difficult to fly in and out of the field today, because Radio Station WMSG now has its transmission tower in the same location.)

Rebby lived in Kingwood, W.Va., but some time in this era he built an airplane hangar beside the landing strip, and would keep his airplane there on Saturday night and sometimes Sunday night and fly back to Kingwood on Monday. Cubby and Scotty flew back to their home

fields Sunday evening; Cubby to Fairchance, Pa. and Scotty to a flying field in the vicinity of Uniontown, Pa.

Today it is difficult to explain the fascination surrounding these or any other "barnstorming" pilot, but just prior to this era there was Charles Lindbergh's solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean, Admiral Byrd's exploits at the South Pole, and a host of aviation "firsts" all over the world; somehow, anyone who flew or rode in an airplane was a celebrity.

Then came the "end" for Oakland's young people who were fascinated by the exploits of the three aviators; Rebby was killed when his plane crashed at the Kingwood air field; Cubby was killed at his airfield in Pennsylvania, and "Scotty" was killed near Uniontown, Pa. while he was setting off fireworks at night and crashed into a mountain.

Of course, there were other pilots who used Weber's Field through the years, but these three "barnstormers" were gone, and the roar of their airplanes over Oakland wasn't heard any more.

My first airplane ride was from Weber's field, but it wasn't with one of these three pilots. A big Ford Trimotor flew into Weber's Field one weekend during this same period, to give passenger rides, and my Father said it



was O.K. for my brothers and meto go for a ride in it.

Today I can't remember very much about the flight except that it took off and climbed to about 1,000 feet and then turned to the north toward Deep Creek Lake. The first thing I realized was that the ground seemed to tilt up while everything in the cabin of the airplane seemed to remain in place, after a few seconds I

realized that the force of turning the airplane made it seem that way.

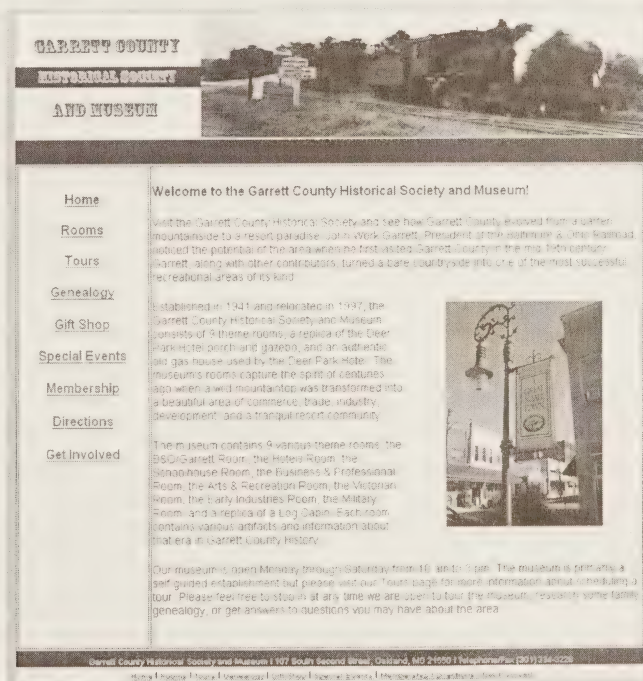
We flew over the lake, circled and came back over Oakland. For the first time I saw details of the town that I had never seen before. Then the plane started losing altitude and we were back at the landing field again.

Yes, it was brief, but for the first time in my life I had ridden in an airplane.

## New Website

The Garrett County Historical Society and Museum is pleased to announce its new website. The website contains information about each of the Museum's rooms, tour information, membership details, and many

other special features. Please visit the website at: [gchsmuseum.com](http://gchsmuseum.com) or search for us on Google using the keywords Garrett County Historical Society in the search box.



**GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM**

**Home**  
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**Genealogy**  
**Gift Shop**  
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**Get Involved**

Welcome to the Garrett County Historical Society and Museum!

Visit the Garrett County Historical Society and see how Garrett County, viewed from a quarter mountainside to a resort paradise, join work Garrett, President John Robinson & One Railroad realized the potential of the area when he first visited Garrett County in the mid 19th century. Garrett, along with other contributors, turned a bare countryside into one of the most successful recreational areas of its kind.

Established in 1941 and relocated in 1997, the Garrett County Historical Society and Museum consists of 9 theme rooms, a replica of the Deer Park Hotel porch and gazebo, and an authentic old gas house used by the Deer Park Hotel. The museum's rooms capture the spirit of centuries ago when a wild mountainside was transformed into a beautiful area of commerce, trade, industry, development, and a tranquil resort community.

The museum contains 9 various theme rooms: the B&O Garrett Room, the Hotel Room, the Singing Room, the Business & Professional Room, the Arts & Recreation Room, the Victorian Room, the Early Industries Room, the Military Room, and a replica of a Log Cabin. Each room contains various artifacts and information about Garrett County History.

Our museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. The museum is primarily a self-guided entertainment but please visit our Tour page for more information about scheduling a tour. Please feel free to stop in at any time we are open to tour the museum, research some family genealogy, or get answers to questions you may have about the area.

Garrett County Historical Society and Museum | 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21050 | Telephone: (301) 334-0228

Home | History | Rooms | Membership | Gift Shop | Special Events | Directions | Contact Us | Privacy Policy | Sitemap

# *Labor Day Picnic in Helbig's Grove*

*by John A. Grant*



**The picnic was held among the trees at Fourth Street and Memorial Drive in Oakland.**

In my childhood in Oakland it seemed to me that the Labor Day Picnic celebration in Oakland marked the end of Summer. Of course the summer weather continued for weeks past the celebration; but it was held on Monday and the following Wednesday school began in the Garrett County Schools.

The Labor Day celebration began with a parade in Oakland, starting at 1 p.m. The parade usually began on the north end of Second Street, went through downtown, and back up Third and cut over to Fourth Street and Helbig's Grove. (At that time Helbig's Grove took up the space that is now part of the parking area for Garrett Memorial Hospital. Many

of the big Oak trees that formed the Grove are still there.)

The parade included bands, visiting drum corps, fire engines and marching units, various local marching units such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H clubs, and, of course, members of the Knights of Pythias Lodge which sponsored the Picnic. If it happened to be an election year, the candidates for various offices would be in the parade.

For years, the picnic celebration included a carnival which went into action when the first marching unit arrived at the entrance to the grove. There was a Ferris Wheel, a Merry-Go-Round, and associated booths. In addition it usually included an 85-

foot high dive. Also, there were stands which sold sandwiches, ice cream, and other foods. The K. of P. Lodge always had a large booth selling all kinds of food. In addition, there was a booth where the Lodge sold chances on a new automobile. (For a month, tickets had been sold in downtown Oakland.) The winning ticket was chosen about 9:30 or 10:00 p.m.

Soon after the drawing of the ticket, a "dare devil" would climb up a ladder to the 85-foot high dive. As he stood there for a few minutes, ev-

erything on the grounds would close down, lights on the carnival booths would be dimmed, a spotlight would pick up the diver and he would dive off his place on the high board. Then, lights came back on and the drivers of several hundred automobiles parked on the edge of the carnival grounds would start to take their automobiles home. For about 20 minutes the streets of Oakland would be full of automobiles heading out of town and then all would be quiet and the Labor Day Picnic was over.

*Garrett County Historical Society*

# *Account Listing Treasurer's Report*

*As of June 2, 2009*

**Active Accounts:**

Fun Naylor Technology—6025 .....	\$19,753.70
First United Bank CD—6100 .....	16,606.44
First United Bank Checking—2368 .....	11,860.33
Leo Beachy Grantsville—8907 .....	27,017.77
Petty Cash Fund .....	200.00
Matthew W. Novak Scholarship Fund .....	2,061.19

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**Total Funds On Deposit.....** **\$77,499.43**

**No Outstanding Bills**

**Monthly Rental Income .....** **\$ 1,320.00**

(1 Office Space Available)

*Ask For the Profit & Loss Sheet if Interested*



# *Annual Meeting of the Historical Society*

On June 25, 2009, the Annual Meeting of the Garrett County Historical Society took place at the Bittering Fire Hall, Bittering Md. The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. by President Robert Boal, who made a few opening remarks and then asked the Rev.

Dr. Lawrence Sherwood to ask the blessing. Following this, the Ladies Auxiliary began serving dinner.

During the meal, music was supplied by the orchestra present for the occasion.

Following a delicious dinner, President Boal called the group to order for the business session of the Annual Meeting. A motion was made to suspend the reading of Minutes from the previous meeting; motion was carried. At this point Pres. Boal called upon 1st Vice-President James Ashby to conduct the meeting for the election of officers for the coming year. A slate was read which called for the election of the same officers who now served in that capacity. The floor was then opened for any nominations to the slate of officers presented; there



**Instead of a speaker for the evening, we enjoyed the music of the Sugarfoot Stompers.**

being no nominations from the floor, 1st V.P. Ashby declared the existing officers re-elected for the coming year.

The business session being concluded, Pres. Boal once again took over conduct of the meeting. Since there was not a speaker for this meeting of the Society, members were entertained by music from the Sugarfoot Stompers who had played before the start of the meeting.

Following the music there was a drawing for the prize being given away and flowers to members of the Society who had the lucky numbers on their tickets.

A slide show of newly developed photos from the Leo Beachy collection was presented by Chris Schwer.

The Annual Meeting was concluded at 8:30 p.m.

## *1873 Hotel/Porch Façade Upgrade*



**D**uring July the Deer Park Hotel façade of the Garrett County Historical Society Museum building received a total re-caulk and repaint from low-bidder, paint contractor, Sam Butler. The façade's "Deer Park Yellow" now truly stands out and Dailey's Park is spectacular once again.

Also, all eight park benches were scraped and repainted through the cooperative efforts of the Garrett

County Sheriff's Office with much-appreciated inmate labor. The paint for this project was graciously donated by Sherry O'Shell.

In the spring the museum had much brickwork repointed and the rear wall painted by Harry Glotfelty and son Jared. The brickwork had much deteriorated over the years and is now in a very safe, restored condition.

# *Photo Identification*



Can anyone identify these photos from the W.D. Shirer glass negative collection, circa 1900?





# *Map of Museum*

## Welcome to the Garrett County Historical Society and Museum

107 South Second Street  
Oakland, MD 21550  
301-334-3226

[gchsmuseum@verizon.net](mailto:gchsmuseum@verizon.net)  
[www.gchsmuseum.com](http://www.gchsmuseum.com)



We are pleased to announce the creation of a floor map that can be used for a self-guided tour of the museum. Created by Technology Coordinator, Hannah Gnegy, the map describes the contents of each room and displays a picture of one of its

more interesting artifacts. Please stop by the museum and pick up a full-size copy of the map.

This project was made available through funds generously given to the museum by the Howard and Audrey Naylor Foundation.

## Schools Room/Bookshop

Restroom

This room houses the Museum's bookshop which sells novels written by local authors and compilations by the Museum itself. You also will see artifacts from one room school houses and from the previous and current high schools in the area.



By The Garrett County Historical Society

## B&O/Garrett Room

Here you will discover the origins of the county in 1872, and the importance of John Work Garrett, President of the B & O Railroad from 1858 until 1884. You will also enjoy operating a scale model B & O passenger train, The Royal Blue.



Pioneer Trail Display

National Road Display

## Genealogy Library/Office

The genealogical library contains family books, family files, various records, land plots, albums containing photos and postcards, a copy of all publications that have been sold by the Museum, and other various research materials.



## Hotels Room

John W. Garrett loved the mountainous region of Western Maryland so much that he persuaded the B & O Railroad to built two luxurious hotels here in the 1870's, and promoted this region as one of the premier summer resorts in the country.



Foyer

### Military Room

This room contains a broad collection of weapons, uniforms, and memorabilia spanning nearly 150 years of warfare, from the Civil War to Desert Storm, such as a saddle from Union General Benjamin Kelley and a 1907 horse-drawn Gatling gun.



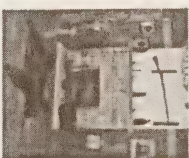
### Early Industries Room

Soon the hills were alive with the sounds of... axes felling trees, buzzing sawmills, farmers tilling the soil, coal miners blasting their way beneath the ground, and the shrill whistle of many steam engines.



### Cabin Room

Perhaps the most delightful room in our museum is the cabin. This re-creation, using original hand-hewn beams and rafters, captures the essence of pioneer life in the mid-1800's.



### Victorian Room

The room features Victorian period artifacts, including furniture, glassware, dolls and toys. Look closely and you may spot a silver fork and spoon that once belonged to Francis Scott Key.



Barn Wall Carving

### Arts & Recreation Room

Garrett County offered

### Business & Professional Room

This room features artifacts



# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or  
joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only  
one copy of each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550

# *A Small Town... With a Spectacular History*

*by Felix G. Robinson*

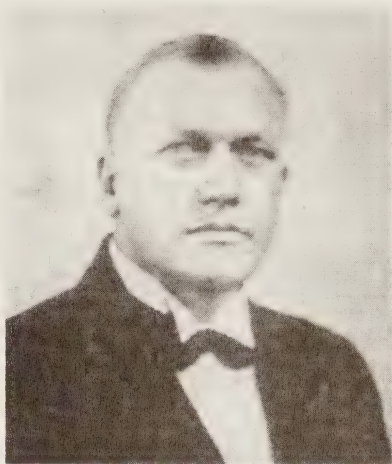
*The following is a reprint of a section of Felix Robinson's Garrett County issue of his series titled Tableland Trails. For many years Englander's Pharmacy sold copies of this article to tourists visiting the area. It was quite a popular pamphlet.*

*Some copies of the entire fall of 1963 Garrett County issue of Tableland Trails are still available at the museum for \$20 plus tax.*

Oakland, Maryland? Never heard of it. Well—it happens to be the oldest town on top of any mountain in the world to have a railroad station.

One hundred twelve years ago a grunting engine was pulling stagecoach cars up a seventeen-mile grade in the heart of the Allegheny Mountains on rails laid along the edge of a forested canyon and across a frothing creek. The Iron Horse had strode up the mountain and taken a deep drink from the Youghioghny River. Never had a steam locomotive done this before. Once buffaloes could be seen grazing in the mountain-top glades through which the tracks were laid to the West.

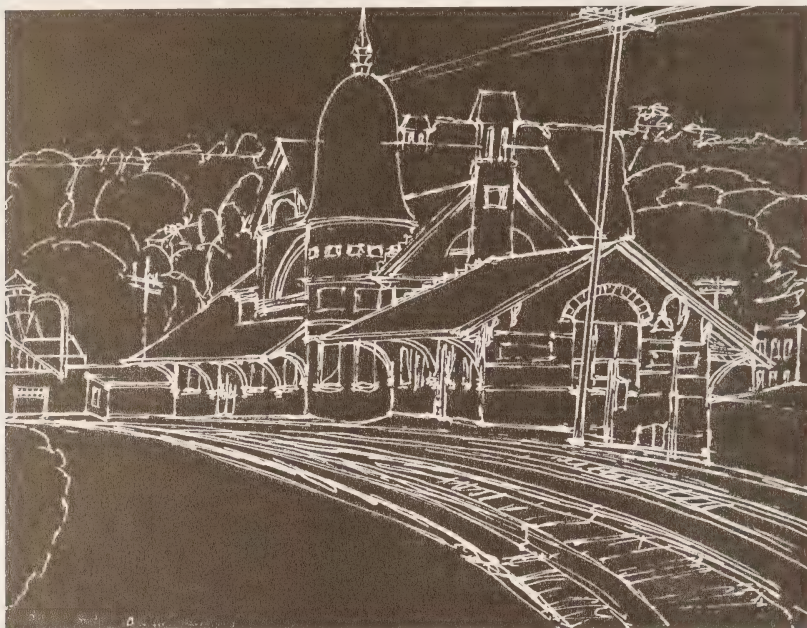
Here at one of the multiple headwaters of the vast Mississippi Valley a town collected itself around this station of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Two years later the rails had reached Wheeling, West Virginia on



**Rev. Felix G. Robinson**

the Ohio River. The city of Baltimore and the Ohio River Valley were now launched in a diversified enterprise. This was the event that helped place Baltimore in a front position as a seaport for world commerce. Because of the railroad Oakland became the first mountain-top summer resort in the United States. Its station has not missed a day of passenger and freight traffic since 1851, with the exception of wrecks and unforeseen circumstances.

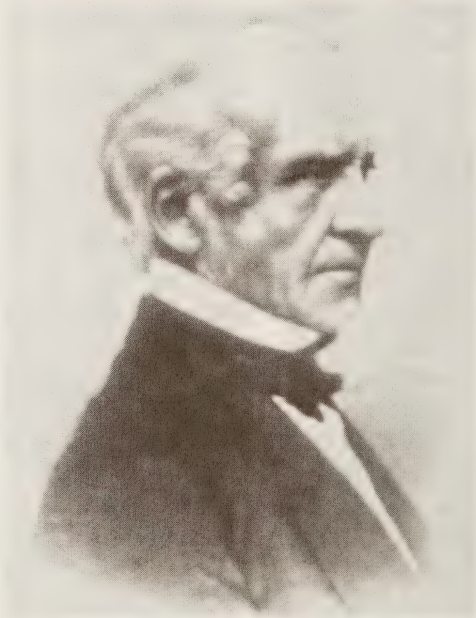
There are multitudes of communities beautiful for situation, filled with culture-relics, and much older, scattered throughout the world that have a far greater tourist attraction than Oakland, Maryland.



Artist's sketch of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station, Oakland, Maryland. This was built in 1884. The station was established in 1851. Thus Oakland has the oldest railroad station on top of any mountain in the world. This sketch was made in August 1962 by Arnold Bank, Professor of Calligraphy in the College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Nevertheless those who visit renowned places like Stratford-on-Avon could find much to interest them in Oakland. They go to Stratford-on-Avon because it is the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Perhaps they might want to look around this slumless village perched on top of the Alleghenies.

**Francis Thomas, Governor of Maryland (1841-1844). Ambassador to Peru, 1872. Latter part of his life he resided in Garrett County near 17 Mile Grade. Picture through courtesy of Maryland Historical Society and Caleb Winslow.**







**Phoebe Key, oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Scott Key; wife of Major Charles Howard of the Civil War. The child is Mae Howard, daughter of McHenry Howard, and granddaughter of Phoebe Key Howard. Courtesy of Bridget Maroney, Oakland, Maryland.**

For more than a century famous people have visited here, and some have made it their summer home.

No sooner had the train climbed the mountains than prominent writers came to see the endless forests, fish for trout in the tumbling streams, and do some writing. Between George Bancroft and John dos Passos there have been many who have explored the idyllic landscape surrounding it. S. Weir Mitchell, physician and novelist, built his summer home, "The Four Winds", nearby. Lew Wallace while writing *Ben Hur* stayed with

his old friend ex-Governor Francis Thomas. Porte Crayon and Rebecca Harding Davis, writers for *Harper's Magazine*, explored the region and visited the solitary mountaineers.

Mrs. Francis Scott Key, with her eldest child (Phoebe Key Howard), stepped down from the train on Oakland's platform in the summer of 1859. She had been told that one could see ladies wearing shawls on cool July afternoons,

and at nightfall sitting around fireplaces on whose mantels would be drying the skins of rattlesnakes that had been killed while hiking through the forest. Mrs. Key purchased a hunting lodge from Edwin Stabler of the U. S. Bureau of Engraving, and Francis P. Blair of Blair House, Washington, D. C. Stabler and Blair were hunting cronies of Meschach Browning the best known of the pioneer hunters of the Alleghenies. It was the same year that the old hunter's book "Forty-four Years of The Life of a Hunter" was published



**This is possibly the earliest picture of the Garrett Memorial Church, then Presbyterian Memorial Church, and now St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Presidents Grant, Cleveland, and Benjamin Harrison attended services here when they were vacationing at nearby Deer Park. Courtesy of Rev. Shelby Walthall.**

in Philadelphia. It has gone through thirteen editions. Mrs. Key enlarged the Lodge. It was occupied by her and her daughter's family every summer until the passing of the last survivor, Julia McHenry Howard, in 1959, a century later.

Also in 1859 an ailing U. S.

Senator, Jefferson Davis, with his family spent several summer days at the Glades Hotel. He had come to receive treatment from Dr. Josiah Lee McComas a young physician with a wide reputation. The Senator was restored to health; the doctor was paid in gold pieces.





"Crook's Crest", originally the summer residence of General and Mrs. George A. Crook. The General died in the Palmer House in Chicago at the time the house was being built. In recent years it was the summer residence of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mitchell Weeks of Washington. Mr. Weeks was connected with The Bureau of Engraving, and made many of the models of U. S. coins and paper bills. His wife, known as Thekla Fundenburg Weeks, wrote the Centennial History of Oakland (1849-1949), and other books on local history; also a contributor to "The Glades Star". The E. L. Busey family now own and occupy this residence the year around. Picture made by Caleb Winslow Jr. of Baltimore, Maryland.



Once "Swan Meadows" the home of General Benjamin Kelly after he retired from the army. It is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lichty; Mrs. Lichty is seen in the foreground. Picture by Caleb Winslow Jr.



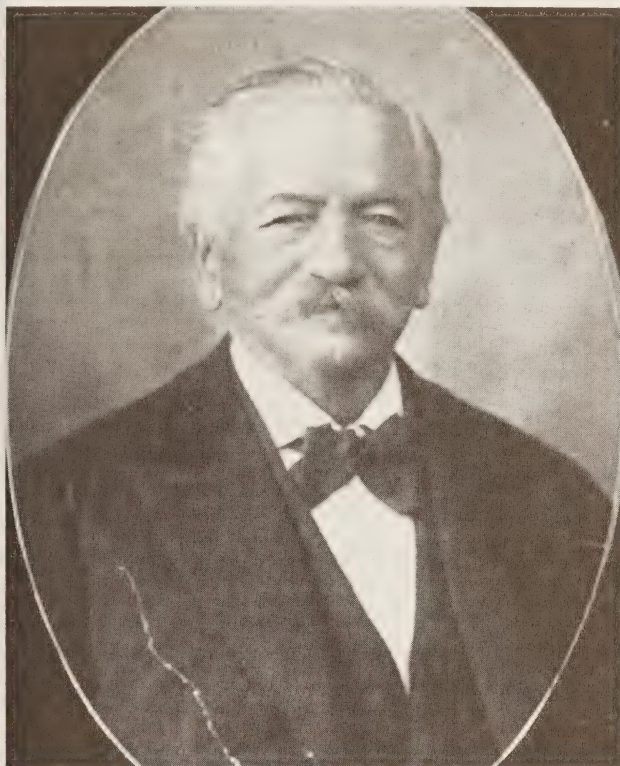


The last dance party for Oakland children held at the Oakland Hotel in the summer of 1907 under the sponsorship and tutelage of Mrs. Elizabeth (Aunt Libby) Hyde. The hotel was dismantled in 1909. Front row, left to right: Arthur Townsend, John Mitchell, Lyden White, Irvin Baumgartner, Mary Willison, ? ?, Ralph Robinson, ? ?. Second row: Regina Helbig, Lillian Helbig, ?, a Miss Linville, Elizabeth Mitchell. Third row: Cecelia Hart, Elizabeth Willison, Ruth Robinson, Margaret Sincell, ? ?, Mildred Dixon. Fourth row: Carleton Hinebaugh (sitting on post), ? ?, Emroy Bolden (with large bow tie), David Burke, Frederick Thayer (in dark blouse), and Genevieve Paddock (seated on post). Fifth row: Felix Robinson, ? ?, Lois Fraley, ? ?. Sixth row: Girl (seated on post), ? ?, Douglas Sincell (in large hat), Frances Hamill, Le Mark Ward, Isabel Hamill (seated on post). The last row: Mrs. Hamill, Mrs. White, Veronica Rasche (the tall one), Aunt Libby Hyde (third from last). Several on this row of adults not identified. Picture courtesy of Dr. Irvin Baumgartner.

When the streets were aisles of oak and maple, and when lilacs bloomed in the front lawns, the townsfolk, bearded Amish farmers, and lumberjacks with calked-sole boots could gawk on many a day when President Ulysses S. Grant or President Benjamin Harrison would alight from their carriages unattended and make purchases in the shops. They were not pressed for autographs or handshakes, and there was no need

for guards. President and Mrs. Grover Cleveland were to be seen coming from the Presbyterian Church where they had attended services and heard a mountain milk maid sing a hymn.

William McKinley and William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) were pallbearers at the funeral of General George Crook, America's most famous Indian fighter. His home, "Crook's Crest" is still one of Oakland's landmarks. General Benjamin Kelley of the Civil War spent



**William F. Thiede, one of the pioneers of the Symphony Orchestra in U.S.A. Accompanied Jenny Lind on her cross-country tour in 1849. For many years a summer resident of Oakland, Maryland. He presented this picture to Katherine Rowan Rasche; her daughter, Mrs. Estelle Treacy, has made the picture available for this article.**

his last days on a farm on the outskirts of town, where he watched his played-out war horses drop dead in the deep pasture of the glades. Captain James Brock, the last survivor of "The Light Brigade" (Crimean War, 1854) was our oldest and most famous warrior. He was a very peaceable, dignified, kindly gentleman.

Between Oakland and Deer Park, a distance of six miles, there were three dozen summer hotels around the turn of this century. The Mountain Lake

Hotel is the one survivor and still doing business. Alexander Graham Bell experimented with telephone connections between the Oakland and Deer Park Hotels that had been built within the same decade by John W. Garrett, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Together they could accommodate a thousand people. It was in Deer Park in 1886 that Archbishop Gibbons of

Baltimore was notified by the Papal Nuncio that His Holiness Leo XIII had made him a cardinal. One of the most notable gatherings in the history of the resort was the reception for James Cardinal Gibbons attended by the highest dignitaries of the nation, and of all faiths.

Among the artists whose names appeared on the hotel registers were David Belasco, Fanny Bloomfield Zeisler, Olga Samaroff, Mrs. Leslie Carter, a Chamber Music Ensemble

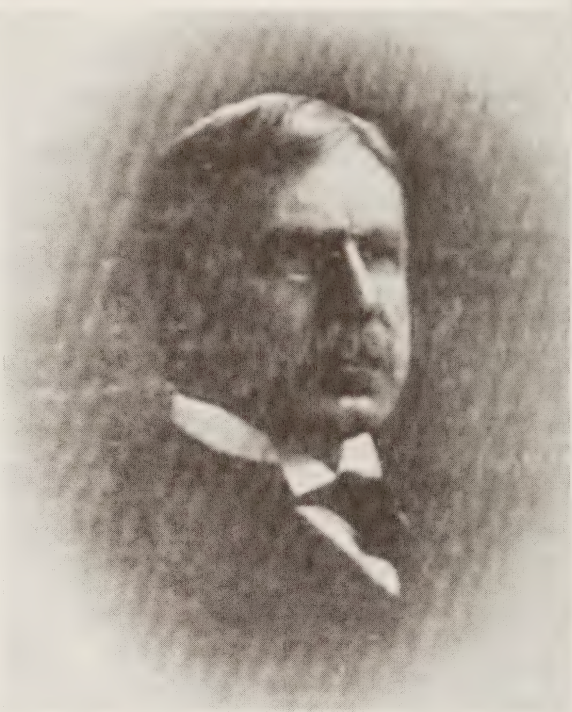


from St. Petersburg, Russia, and members of the Boston and Baltimore Symphony Orchestras. Of recent years the Mountain Lake Hotel has played host to Reinald Werrenwrath, Roy and Johana Harris, Eleanor Steber, Harvey Gaul, Henry Holden Huss.

When a child I remember my father calling attention to an old man with smiling wrinkles, walking on a tan bark path through a maple grove that led to Washington Spring. He was William F. Thiede, one of the first professional players of symphonic music in the U. S. He was a bassoonist

and violinist. He was a member of the orchestra that accompanied Jenny Lind on her memorable cross-country tour that was promoted by Phineas T. Barnum. Thiede played at the Inauguration of Zachary Taylor. He summered in Oakland the last twenty years of his long, musical life.

Back in the early twenties Henry Ford, Thomas A. Edison, Harvey Firestone and John Burroughs spent two weeks camping on a pine needle



**Col. George Truesdell of Washington, D. C. Summer resident in Garrett County for many years. His estate was known as Altamont Farm. Here he raised Rambouillet sheep; also operated a plant that bottled mountain spring water which was shipped to eastern cities. For story of his career see article entitled "Unsung Landmark" by Stanley Phillip Smith in March 1963 issue of "The Glades Star". Picture through the courtesy of Stanley Phillip Smith. Reproduced from the Collections of The Library of Congress.**

carpet in a virgin hemlock forest adjacent to Maryland's highest waterfall. A few years later Albert Einstein was seen making purchases in an Oakland grocery store. He was living in a cabin at Deep Creek Lake where Dr. Jonas Salk of Polio fame and his family now spend their summers. Washington lingered here in September, 1784 when he was surveying the proposed water-route to the west. About the only class of celebrities that have failed





**"Kittery Hill," one of the better preserved summer residences that were built in the post-Civil War period in Garrett County, Maryland. Picture by Caleb Winslow Jr. For a number of years it was, until her death, the residence of Mrs. Edith Young. It is the property of Commodore and Mrs. Donald Loomis of Chapel Hill, North Carolina.**

to make their appearance are the Hollywood stars.

Fifty years ago there were more prosperous communities than Oakland in the Allegheny Mountains. These places thrived on lumber and coal. Now—they are ghost towns. On the other hand Oakland's burgeoning well-being and affluence has been predetermined by an expanding agrarian economy and free-spending summer vacationers; it is also the County Seat. Its bid for a propitious future is complemented by a colorful past. The people of Oakland have a great tradition, and they have come to know it. On the occasion of its Centennial in 1949 they gave all-out collaboration, talent and support to the dramatization of its history. The words and

music of the ballad, the narration script, acting, publicity and staging were the creation of the people.

#### THE FUTURE HAS A HALO

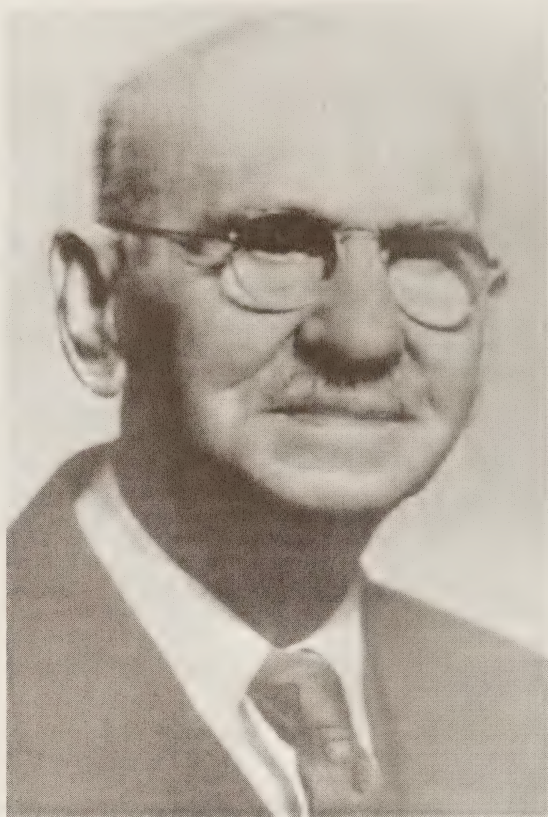
It is the knowledge of its past, stimulated by the literature of The Garrett County Historical Society, that makes it easy to predict that Oakland's greatest years lie ahead. It used to be that the most talented youth would follow the dreams of Horatio Alger and seek fame and fortune in the cities. While there are many who still leave home, often through necessity, there are others, some of its most talented youngsters, offspring of pioneer Oakland families, who are returning to their hometown after college.

The business and professional

leadership of Oakland sprang originally from Tidewater and down-east families. During the reconstruction phase following the Civil War there commenced the interpenetration of its leadership with enterprising folks from west side of the mountains, notably West Virginians, commencing with A. D. Naylor (now 102 years old) who came here from Mineral County, W. Va., in 1884 and is still in business (79 years) at the spot where he started. Since World War II the influx of West Virginians, together with a few from other states, has accelerated. Thus there is blended the youth of the pioneer families

with the youth from West Virginia, both in business and professions, that is producing a new level of competent cooperation and a new dynamic for small-town society—a new strain that is productive of harmony, of achievement in a manifold agenda for the commonwealth.

The life of the community, in relation to itself, to the county, is channelled through the Mountain Top Chamber of Commerce, The Deep Creek Lake, Garrett County Promo-



**Picture of Alonzo Drake Naylor, Oakland's oldest citizen, taken on his 100th birthday September 27, 1961. Courtesy of Mary Drake Bennett. Picture by Ruthven Morrow.**

tion Council, The Garrett County Development Corporation, together with a very workable cooperation between federal and state agencies. The Garrett County Development Corporation reflects a cross-section of the business and professional leadership in every community in the County.

When the country at large is being threatened with a water shortage, the town of Oakland, through its competent Mayor and Council, has provided a dependable supply that



Fourth of July Parade on Second Street in Oakland in 1898—twenty days before the birth of the Editor which was in the residence of Patrick Hamill two blocks north on the same street. The float in the rear was from Mt. Lake Park. The building at left center, with the two awnings, was the Garrett National Bank. This side of the bank is a blacksmith shop. Picture by H. L. Grant. From the Bern Nally Collection.

will take care of industrial and domestic needs far in excess of present demands.

Oakland no longer exists for itself—with a China Wall of self-interest around it. It has learned to collaborate with her neighboring communities. Here is truly a new type of communal culture, one that has an intimate association with the soil, with the conservation of the natural resources of this tableland. Teillard de Chardin, as quoted in *TIME*, July 27, 1962 says this about Business: "How," you ask, 'can the success of a commercial enterprise bring with it moral progress?' And I answer, 'in this way, that since everything holds together in a world which is on the way to unification, the spiritual success of

the universe is bound up with the correct functioning of every zone of that universe and particularly with the release of every object in it. Because your undertaking is going well, a little more health is being spread in the human mass, and in consequence a little more liberty to act, to think and to love.'" The community of Oakland presents such a miniature potential.

Martin Schorer in his biography of Sinclair Lewis says: "By 1920 (the year of the publication of "Main Street") the village as an important unit in capitalist economy had ceased to exist, had become backwash, and, with that life gone from it, its social and moral attitudes had become fixed in the rigidities of the past. The war was necessary to the discovery of





**Thomas L. Lincoln (1853-1902), cousin of Abraham Lincoln. The last eight years of his life a resident of Conneway House on the crest of Backbone Mountain at Table Rock. He published a book of verse, descriptive of the Allegheny Mountains, the year of his death. Mrs. Virgil Spitzer of Blackwater State Park, Davis, W. Va. has a copy. Courtesy of the late Dayton Conneway, Gorman, W. Va.**

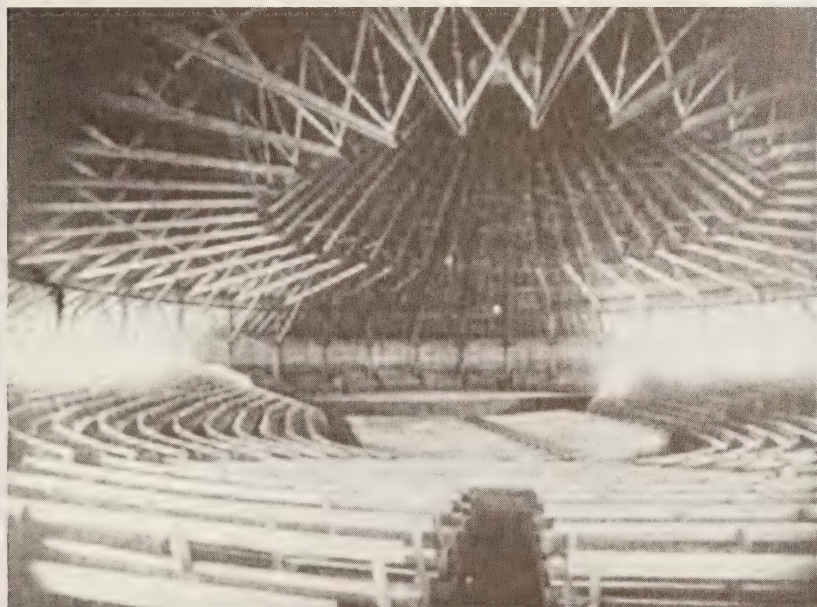
what had happened. Thousands of intelligent young people had for two decades been fleeing to the cities; those who could not, the many who were left behind, were frustrated and corrupted in their discontent." (p. 271) But the sociological status of the small town has, since World War II, Oakland a case in point, developed an unprecedented evaluation of the good life—"a place where an American can put his roots—America at its kindest,

its friendliest, its human best."

So today we see the urbanite who would be enfranchised from the sordid, and often violent and traffic-jammed condition of the big city, looking with nostalgia on what he formerly derided as "the styx". Truly, Oakland's (population 2,000) greatest years are ahead. It is a town of attractive and competent youth, contented old folk—who are enjoying a happy and productive life. Almost within



The Organizers of the Mountain Lake Park Association (1882-1883). Standing, from left to right: Rev. C. P. Masden, Wheeling, West Virginia, C. W. Conner, Wheeling, West Virginia, Dr. J. Goucher, Baltimore, Maryland, Rev. John McMillen Davis, Oakland, Maryland, S. L. Allen, Newburg, West Virginia. Sitting, from left to right: Major J. C. Alderson, Wheeling, West Virginia, Dr. C. W. Baldwin, Baltimore, Maryland. Courtesy of A. D. Naylor, Oakland, Maryland.



The interior of the new auditorium, the Bashford Amphitheatre, at Mt. Lake Park. Built in 1900—and used for Chatauqua. Here the most prominent speakers of the country addressed capacity audiences. Seating capacity 3,500. It was dismantled in 1942. Courtesy of the Library of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.



walking distance one can stalk a deer, catch a trout, sail a yacht, or ski on a slope. It is a town with an air-conditioned climate, an unsurpassable landscape, a healthy people with a unique heritage.

As I conclude with some more childhood recollections, the month of August was the peak of the year. I can remember sitting on my mother's lap as we were driven in a black lacquered carriage out the dusty road to the Amphitheatre (seated 3,500) where we heard the nation's

foremost orators; and at the conclusion of their dramatic speeches gave them a chautauqua salute. And what a host of celebrities: William Howard Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, William Jennings Bryan, DeWitt Talmadge, Newel Dwight Hillis, S. Parkes Cadman, Ernest Thompson Seton, Burton Holmes, William Pierce Hobson, Mark Twain, Sam Jones, Billy Sunday, and Russell Conwell. Conwell's most famous lecture was "Acres of Diamonds". His best re-



**President William Howard Taft as he was about to board a train at the Mountain Lake Park Station. He was on his way to Cincinnati, his hometown. Courtesy of Library of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.**

membered point was that the most enduring wealth could be found in one's own backyard.

Digging into the past of Oakland I have discovered something more priceless than an archaeological cache. It is the discovery of memorable people and events that are bound up with the cultural heritage of America. It is from such roots that the town is today spreading its branches to the sun. A small town, but one with a spectacular history.



# *Outdoor Concert*



*The Garrett County Historical Society  
Announces a Very Special  
Outdoor Concert*

*Featuring  
**Muriel and Mark Franc**  
Performing*

*Popular Music and Forgotten Love Songs  
September 26, 2009  
Dailey's Park Gazebo  
Open to the Public  
Free will offering will be taken*



This 1907 Oakland Hotel photo was recently donated to the Garrett County Historical Society by Robert and Sally Jamison of Slippery Rock, PA. The man in the carriage is Mor-

rell Edward Jamison, father of Robert Jamison and grandson of Meschach Browning.

The Oakland Hotel was razed in 1911.

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## *Memorials*

### **Howard Wensel**

Gladys W. Faherty  
Nancy L. Helbig

### **Frederick A. Holliday, II**

Judy and Wayne Wilt

### **Humbird Lynn Johnson**

Rodney, Cindy,  
and Anne Grady  
Roger and Debbie Cornelius

## *Honorariums*

### **Joe DiSimone**

Friends and Family

## *Donations*

James Rarick  
Rotary Club of Oakland  
Mrs. B. Beeson Snyder  
Shirley Louis Ambrose

Knitters Club  
Charles C. Royer  
Ross and Donna Johnson  
Michael Ault

*Garrett County Historical Society**Publications*

<i>Aurora Documents</i> .....	\$10.60
<i>Baldwin—The B&amp;O Baltimore and Beyond</i> .....	\$21.20
<i>Browning Family Genealogy</i> .....	\$10.60
<i>Brown's Miscellaneous Writings</i> .....	\$8.48
<i>Centennial Souvenir Edition Glades Star</i> .....	\$5.30
<i>Civil War Glades Star</i> .....	\$3.71
<i>Corrigendum to Garrett County Graves</i> .....	\$3.71
<i>Deep Creek Lake, Past and Present</i> .....	\$10.60
<i>Deer Park, Then and Now</i> .....	\$10.60
<i>Dreams</i> .....	\$2.12
<i>Forty-Four Years in the Life of a Hunter</i> .....	\$26.50
<i>Garrett County Graves, Volume I</i> .....	\$47.70
<i>Garrett County Graves, Volume II</i> .....	\$31.80
<i>Garrett County History</i> .....	\$26.50
<i>Garrett County 125th Anniversary Photo Album</i> .....	\$21.20
<i>Garrett County Marriage Records</i> .....	\$18.02
<i>Garrett County Postcard History</i> .....	\$21.20
<i>Garrett County Schools of Yesteryear</i> .....	\$40.28
<i>Ghost Towns of the Upper Potomac</i> .....	\$10.60
<i>Glades Star—Current Issue</i> .....	\$3.98
<i>Glades Star—Selected Issues</i> .....	\$2.12
<i>Glades Star—Bound Volumes 1, 2, 3</i> .....	\$10.60 each
<i>Glades Star—Bound Volumes 5, 6, 7, 9, 10</i> .....	\$31.80 each
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<i>Oakland Centennial History</i> .....	\$10.60
<i>150 Years of Oakland</i> .....	\$21.20
<i>Strange and Unusual True Stories of G. C.</i> .....	\$8.48
<i>The Beachy Family</i> .....	\$21.20
<i>Travel Through Garrett County's Past</i> .....	\$12.72
<i>Tucker County</i> .....	\$21.20
<i>Wagon Road</i> .....	\$12.72



# Oakland Accessions

*May 14, 2009 - August 17, 2009*

- Bench from Deer Park Hotel Passenger Station, Bench from  
Bashford Amphitheater, Telephone Operator's Chair used by  
Mrs. Lucas from Oak Street Office. .... *gifts of Rob Michael*
- Retouching Stand (pre 1900) ..... *gift of J.D. Watkins*
- Sterling Processing Agreement..... *gift of Tom Henline*
- 1927 Kitzmiller High School Yearbook ..... *gift of Alice Eary*
- Shadowbox Frames with Tintypes of Lizzie Browning/Husband,  
Framed Picture of Ben and Etheleen Friend, Photos of 1907  
Ford, Photo of Carriage at Oakland Hotel, Lizzie Browning  
Genealogy, Photo of Lizzie Browning and Robert Jamison,  
Framed Civil War Roster of Co. K, Lizzie Browning's Glasses  
and Case, K and P Fraternal Sword, Belt and Chain for Pythian  
Sword, Photo of first Car in Garrett County, Photo of Lizzie  
Browning, Photos of Morrell Jamison, Photo of Dora Blanch  
Friend, Christening Gown of Morrell Jamison, Child's Antique  
Slip, Child's Gown (c. 1884), Antique Spatula, Grass Shears,  
Cast Iron Fish Scaler, Sickle, Copies of Jamison Letters, Boy's  
Fancy Gown ..... *gifts of Robert and Sally Jamison*
- Framed 1936 Map of Deep Creek Lake..... *gift of Dr. J.K.Folmar*
- Rolls of Deep Creek Speedway Tickets ..... *gift of Norman Conway*
- SHS Yearbooks from 1970s, Plaques of Deep Creek Area from  
1960s, Frame Photo of Preston RR Engine #18 at Crellin  
Enginehouse, Sheets of B&O Lading Cards, Chessie System  
Lading Cards, Advertising Clip from Variety Woodworking  
Co., 1939 Southern States Newsletter and Prices, 1915 Swine  
Breeder's Certificate, 1960 Dale Carnegie Yearbook from  
Oakland, City Roller Mills Account Book, Keller Drug Store  
Booklet, 1957 Garrett County Roads Report, "Formulas for  
Profit" ..... *gifts of Dr. Lawrence Sherwood*

- "Youghiogheny Appalachian River", "The Old Pike", "Wild Flowers of the Alleghanies," The Founding of Maryland", "The Killing Waters", "These United States" .....*gifts of Elsie O. Cross Estate*
- Two Legal Bookcases .....*gifts of Register of Wills Office*
- WWII Ceremonial Sword .....*gift of Gerald Maynard*
- Female Mannequin .....*gift of Sherry VanNosdeln*
- Portrait of Clyde Walter Dixon, Purple Heart and Letter of Award, Letters of Death and Death Regrets, Dixon Letters, Information about Clyde W. Dixon .....*gifts of Gary V. Dixon*
- Picture of Drane House by Don Swann.....*gifts of Nan Gangler*
- Carnival Glass Dish and Brown Jug from Lee House.....*gifts of Geraldine McGuigan*
- Photocopies of Deep Creek Dam Construction .....*gift of Karl Kahl*
- Model 220 Savage 12 Gauge Shotgun .....*gift of Harold Kahl*
- Four Books on Railroad History.....*gift of Clarence Rhodes*
- Two Framed Pastels by Alice B. DeBerry. ....*gift of Eleanor Scouten*
- Assorted Business Advertising Key Rings.....*gift of Emerson Fike, Jr.*

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## HUNTING NOTICE

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The "Goat Farm," near Swallow Falls, is considered one of the best HUNTING GROUNDS in Garrett County for deer and other game. While these grounds are posted against trespassing, a limited number of sportsmen may obtain boarding accommodations and privilege at \$2.00 per day, by communicating with the undersigned.

**Z. L. MELLOTT, Oakland, Md.**

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

# Periodical



## *Newest Publication by The Garrett County Historical Society*

### **Travel Through Garrett County's Past**



By The Garrett County Historical Society

A photo tour of the Garrett County area as it was decades ago. This book is dedicated to the memory of W. Howard Wensel. Price for the book is \$12.72, tax included.



# THE Glades ★ Star

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THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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OAKLAND, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2009



Bringing in the Christmas Tree 150 Years Ago. See story page 583.

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

PUBLISHED quarterly by the Society at Oakland, MD. Entered as Periodicals Postage Paid at the Post Office of Oakland, MD.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

CORRESPONDENCE: *Glades Star*, 107 S. Second St., Oakland. MD 21550.

## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.GCHSmuseum.com](http://www.GCHSmuseum.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# Christmas Day A Century Ago

by Dennis T. Rasche

*Drawing (Front Cover) by Barbara Moon*

*Editor's note: This article from the December 1958 issue of the Glades Star describes a Christmas 150 years ago in what would become Garrett County. It also comments on changes under way in the country and on political and economic events that would engulf the country in war just four years later.*

During the year country people of the thinly-settled area now Garrett County had not prospered. The preceding year of 1857 had been one of "hard times." The Baltimore and Ohio railroad had been in operation across the county for seven years, a means of shipping farm products to populous towns and cities. But people there, stricken by the plight of depression, were in worse case than their country cousins who at least had food in plenty.

Tom Lee was industrious and had worked hard on his farm, but the return had been meager. His best horse had sickened and died. The replacement had been costly.

"Oh well," he said resignedly to his aged father, Frederick Lee, "I remember worse hard times in 1837."

"About like the difference between arsenic and strychnine," the old man said.

As the holiday season drew near, Tom, thinking of his young children, told himself ruefully that like the Scot

with no silver, he would need to go fast through the market-place.

Tom's father, Frederick Lee, had inherited this land two score years earlier from his father, Dudley Lee, who had borne arms during the Revolutionary War. By unrelenting toil he had cleared acres of forest and drained other acres of glade land. Bowed down by weight of years he could not now do the more laborious farm work. But he could do other things: mend shoes or even make them, and husk or shell corn faster than anybody. Deft with his hands he had acquired skill as a gunsmith. Men rode many miles bringing old flint-locks to be modernized to fire by means of the newer and more reliable percussion cap. Thus he sometimes earned a little money. Hanging over the mantelpiece was his own ancient remodeled gun.

When Tom came home from his pre-Christmas trip to the store it had been with an air of mystery and secrecy. Before the sled's burden was unloaded the children had been sent off on errands. To neighbors went the girls with recent copies of the fine new magazine, Atlantic Monthly, only published since 1856. Returning they would bring borrowed copies of Harper's, equally good, launched in 1850.



Meanwhile the two boys brought in from nearby woods a fine Christmas tree.

A few days earlier Tom's father had drawn him aside.

"Listen, son," he said, "When I was the age of these youngsters I knew many a skimpy Christmas. I want them to have better ones."

The old man reached for his wallet. He had saved a little during better years.

Before daybreak of Christmas morning, Jessie, Tom's wife, had a cheery log fire burning and the rooms brightly lighted with a profusion of tallow candles. Grandfather Lee, always an early riser, looked on as she lighted small wax candles on the tree, her finishing touch. Tom, his milking finished, entered and the grownups were assembled.

Large-scale manufacture of holiday decorations did not begin for another dozen or so years. Country people improvised them. The room was gay with branches of laurel, colored bows of ribbon, and painted pine cones, red and gilt. The Christmas tree was cheery with its lighted candles. Strings of scarlet cranberries and white popcorn added color. Around its base were gifts for each.

Jessie had carefully staged the entrance of the children, dressed and waiting impatiently. She desired that the grown-ups should enjoy the glow that comes as they behold the delight and excitement of the little ones on seeing the magic wrought while they slept. They now came bouncing in.

New dolls, one a black pickaninny, enchanted the girls. Plain dolls

they were. None was then made with eyes that opened and closed. None could cry when squeezed in the midriff. The Dydee doll was then unheard of. The boys were pleased with new jackknives. Grandfather had made a new sled, denying the children access to his workshop the while. It made a brave show with its gaudy paint.

Tom and Jessie were in early middle age. Their children were John, Eva, Dudley, and Ruth; the oldest thirteen, the youngest seven.

In the family circle Tom's father was called Grandfather. He wore a new white shirt and was clean-shaven. Tom was bearded, as were most men of the time.

In appearance they all were—well, they looked like other people of that time, or like their many descendants of today.

Among the gifts was a sewing-machine, the marvellous labor saver invented twelve years earlier and lately made really workable by a New Yorker, Isaac Singer. Jessie's eyes sparkled as she looked at her small daughters.

"They'll be as well-dressed as any now," she said, "Shirt and things for you men too," her gesture included the boys, "And done in a tenth of the time of hand sewing!"

Tom leafed through a gift book, Uncle Tom's Cabin. "Published six years ago," he said, "and still generating excitement. More than half a million copies sold."

"We'd better all read it soon," Grandfather said, "before the neighbors come to borrow it."

Breakfast: sausage, eggs, buckwheat cakes with butter, honey or

maple syrup, milk, coffee.

The morning had dawned bright and sunny. Outdoors, as poets might say—indeed did say—frost on the snow-covered fields glittered like myriad tiny diamonds. Old December's bareness was clad in robes of ermine too dear for an earl. Every branch and twig, erstwhile bare ruined choirs where late the sweet birds sang, were ridged inch-deep in pearl.

Altogether the landscape was like those pictured on some of the hundreds of millions of greeting cards that today are an annual deluge. This interesting custom originated about 1846, but postal service was limited in 1858. Not for another forty years would the cards begin to swell to flood stage.

All now settled themselves around the hearth. Without bidding and as though by habit little Ruth brought to her venerable grandsire the large family Bible, "once his father's pride." In measured and reverent tones the patriarch read the moving story of the Nativity. Tom offered a prayer for family, kinfolk, and for Peace on Earth.

The children now turned to their youthful interests, while their elders engaged in a discussion of events of the times.

Wonderful advances in farming and in other fields were in progress. During recent years McCormick had invented a good reaper, and not long before this a thresher with built-in winnower had been developed. A cable had been laid under the Atlantic during the year. Mason had brought out his jars that preserved perishable

foods almost indefinitely.

Railroads were being built in many sections, too rapidly some thought. These believed the depression had been brought on by their too-early extension into districts not being settled as fast as the railroad promoters had expected.

Grandfather had visited kinfolk in Illinois, going most of the way on the railroad cars. He had been impressed with the speed—the trip had taken only five days each way, but part of it was by stagecoach.

Tom was enthusiastic about the new farm machines.

"With them," he said, "before long, a man will produce as much grain in one season as one of centuries ago could in a lifetime."

"There'll be an age of abundance," Jessie said, "and with it—Peace."

Grandfather didn't fully agree. "Abundance—yes. But it won't bring peace. Division of it will incite men and nations to bigger wars, fought with more deadly weapons."

"Anyway," Jessie said "our country was quieter this year than in '57, when that Dred Scott decision and the Kansas Territory bloodshed got folks in a tizzy."

"The lull before the tempest burst, maybe," Grandfather said.

It was time when extreme and violent passions over the question of slavery were rising in both North and South, stirred up by zealots and fanatics, many of them forceful and eloquent orators.

"When I was young," the old man continued, "nearly nine percent of the population of this area were slaves.

That's declined—percentage-wise, anyway. Slavery wasn't profitable here. If this had been cotton and tobacco country we'd still see lots of slaves."

"Maybe you're too pessimistic about a storm gathering," Tom said, "In England slavery was abolished a half century ago. And by due process of law—without violence."

"Over there, "Grandfather rejoined, "the economy of a whole big section didn't rest on slavery. If it had we'd have heard less of ideals and more of shooting. Over there no big investment was at stake. But here there's this talk of secession."

In 1858 when grown-ups got together the talk was nearly sure to turn on slavery and the threat of secession.

"While I was in Illinois," the old man warmed to his subject, "I heard a great speech. It'll go into the history books, I reckon. Half slave and half free the nation cannot permanently endure, the speaker said. A house divided against itself cannot stand; all good men should strive to prevent its fall; if slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong. He said many other things like that. I wish I could remember them all. A tall homely, awkward fellow, the speaker was. My memory fails. I can't call to mind that man's name."

Thus they conversed while the children romped indoors and out. They coasted down a slope. The boys visited their traps, their sisters clamoring to be taken along. When the little girls cried for a poor trapped rabbit the boys released it, holding their struggling dog until the wild furry creature had scampered safely away. Altogether the day was one the young folks would not soon forget.

For the evening meal there was roast turkey, cranberry sauce, chestnut dressing, fine wheat bread instead of the oft-used corn pone, mince and pumpkin pie.

Amid merry chatter during the bounteous repast Grandfather became thoughtful. His mind was on a journey back across the years to scenes of his early youth, the Christmas of 1816, "the year without a summer." Because of cold and frosts only cabbage could be grown. Along with that and such wild game as could be shot or trapped, the large family of the old soldier, Dudley Lee, had each only one slice of bread a day. Many other pioneer families fared no better; some even worse. The old man was recalled from his reveries when song books were brought out.

Old and young joined their voices in the singing of Christmas carols. Whatever advantages we of today enjoy, those people of the long-ago past, the carols they sang were as good as those we now sing, hear over TV or radio, or performed by singing groups like the Barber-Shoppers.

Many are the same; some of our present-day favorites were old a century ago—The First Noel, God Rest Ye, Good King Wenceslaus, We Three Kings,—many others.

Now after a happy day of ease and enjoyment it was time to rest. Tomorrow in those long-past pre-machine days the never-ceasing round of farm work would be resumed.

As Jessie handed Grandfather a lighted candle in its pewter holder his face brightened.

"That name comes back to me," he said, "it was Abraham Lincoln."



# *Grantsville Community Museum Annual Fund Raiser*

*by Gerry Beachy*



**Alonzo Naylor, Naylor Foundation; Maxine Broadwater, Grantsville Museum; and Chris Schwer, Photographer (L-R), enjoying the recent Grantsville Community Museum fund raiser.**

The annual fund raiser dinner for the Grantsville Community Museum was held on October 17 at the Grantsville Senior Center. Entertainment for the 85 in attendance was provided by "Just For Fun" barber-shop quartet who sang to each table of guests and as a special treat, sang the prayer for the meal that was catered by the Goehringers of Accident. A silent auction was held and items without a bid were auctioned off by Commissioner Fred Holliday, who was

recruited at the last minute and made the unannounced auction fun for all in attendance. Special recognition was given to the museum's first curator, Alice Trauger and her husband, Dave, who spent a great deal of time and money getting the museum started. They were given a piece of pottery made by Lynn Lais, resident potter in Spruce Forest Artisan Village at Penn Alps. Special guests in attendance included Alonzo Naylor of the Naylor Foundation, Tom Kennedy and Com-

missioner Fred Holliday.

Photographer Chris Schwer showed a PowerPoint presentation of newly created Leo Beachy photos and spoke about the process of converting a glass negative into a digital image. Funded by the Naylor Foundation, he has been working to convert many of the Leo Beachy glass photo plates to digital images that will be available for sale to the public when the project is completed. Schwer is a photographer and professional photographic printer specializing in the care, handling and printing of vintage photographic materials. Chris's work is contained in the collections of many well-known institutions such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the International Museum of Photography at the George Eastman House and the Art Museum of Princeton University. He has also printed extensively for the Picture Collection of *Life* Magazine.

Born in the late 1950s in Rochester, New York, Schwer grew up without any interest in photography. After finishing the second year at a community college he had no idea what path his life would take. "On a whim I signed up for a class in basic photography and once that camera was in my hand I never looked back. In New York City I immersed myself in the darkroom process. Thirty years later I'm still there and sharing my time between New York and the mountains of western Maryland where I now make my home. I love the photographic process for its ability to capture the history and emotion of

our personal experience." Schwer said "I am only able to work with about 20 glass negatives a day since the work also requires enhancement and repair of the nearly 100 year old plates." His work will help preserve the legacy of the photographer Leo Beachy.

Maxine Broadwater, a member of the Grantsville Museum board and the Garrett Historical Society board, acquired her Uncle Leo's glass plate negatives and has spent much of her time cataloguing them. Many of the photos are of individuals or groups who have not been identified. The museum is hopeful that local residents will come forward with names of people in the photos that can be chronicled for history. Broadwater has said that a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the prints will go to the museum.

The museum is open May through October on Friday and Saturday 1 to 4 pm. They hope to be able to add Thursdays next year since 2 more volunteers have come forward. Special tours of the museum are available by calling the museum at 301-895-5454, Maxine Broadwater at 301-895-5124 or museum curator Earleena Tressler at 301-895-5314. Volunteers and board members are needed. Residents interested in preserving the history of northern Garrett County and especially Grantsville should contact one of the above for information. Persons wanting to donate to the museum can send their tax deductible donations to: Grantsville Community Museum, P.O. Box 413, Grantsville, MD 21536.

*Depression Works Project Provides for Greener Future*

# *The Development of the Oakland Municipal Golf Course*

*by Offutt and Joan Johnson, John Grant, DeCorsey Bolden*



**The Oakland Country Club in 1949.**

The community of Oakland looked toward better times in 1937 and enthusiastically supported the development of a municipal golf course by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). On January 7, 1937, more than 100 Oakland citizens petitioned Mayor Lawrence M. Fraley and the Town Council to build a golf course. These petitioners foresaw to a post-depression economy where the demand for golf would be "a distinct asset for both residents and vacationers." Representing the petitioners, the following spoke in support of the golf course: F.D. Bittle, Oakland

High School principal; Ralph Weber, local florist and greenhouse plants proprietor; Paul B. Naylor, Naylor Hardware Stores; Jack Towler, William James Hotel co-owner; and Henry Tarring, Jr., the local federal Works Progress Administration chief.

By February 11, 1937, following the project's approval by the County Health Officer and the State Health Department, the Town Council approved the Golf Course for development on the Town's "Water Farm" where wells and springs supplied the Town's reservoirs. This depression works project received federal





**A perfect day at Oakland's golf course.**

approval in mid March 1937 from President Roosevelt's "WPA." It was a good project in that it protected a water conservation site with a public recreation facility aimed at stimulating tourism dollars.

A committee of Rotarians, Town Council members, and WPA Chief Tarring worked with James Spencer, Golf Pro at the Kingwood, West Virginia, golf course, designing the course along with Tom Brand of Kingwood. Tom was West Virginia's number one amateur golfing champion and the top player of the University of Michigan's golf team. The town bought 14 more acres for \$1,000 adjoining the "Water Farm" to further protect the wells and add land to the course. Totaling 65 acres, the site was perfect for the course and protection of the wells. The design restricted 10 acres to buffer

wells and springs, leaving 55 acres for the course.

The original design showed a par 34, 9-hole course, 3,140 yards in length; estimated construction cost was under \$11,000. The Town's share was \$2,500. The remainder of the cost came from the WPA. Construction included clearing brush, running water lines to greens, laying drainage tile lines and culverts, straightening the channel of a stream, adding topsoil and sand for construction of greens, grading, seeding, and providing signs and markers. Work started April 1, 1937, and continued until it was completed on September 1, 1937.

The WPA employed 75 workers, and the Town purchased a Chevrolet dump truck for the golf course project as well as other municipal projects. Robert (Bud) Lohr, who drove the town's fire truck, was hired to drive



**Stock certificate for one share in the Oakland Country Club.**

the dump truck.

A partnership was formed. The plan was for the Town, working with the WPA, to provide the land, funding and supervision to construct the golf course. Then a "Golf Club," established by the promoters and on behalf of the Town, would manage and operate the public course. The "Golf Club" would return to the Town at least 6 percent on its investment in the course's development. If more than \$360 per year was cleared by the Golf Club, the Town would benefit with additional receipts. The first club house was the former water superintendent's house near the spring.

The Golf Club would be responsible for maintenance and operating costs, including the Golf Pro. The annual membership rates were set: Man

and family, \$20; single man, \$15; single woman, \$10; non-resident, \$10; beginner, \$5 monthly; payment to apply on full membership, if desired. Season to run annually from May 1 to May 1. The Club officers were D. Edward Offutt, President; Ira Bosley, Vice President; F.D. Bittle, Secretary; and Delbert Davis, Treasurer.

One of the early economic benefits of the golf course was jobs for caddies. Golf carts had not yet been invented, so someone had to carry the bag of clubs. Some prominent towns people such as the Reverend John Grant and former member of the Maryland House of Representatives DeCorsey Bolden entered the work force as caddies. They received between 25 cents and 30 cents per round and "it was a big day when you could get four nine-hole rounds," said

Reverend Grant with a smile and a gleam in his eye.

The number of players using the Oakland Golf Course grew annually. Capital stock was sold by the Oakland Country Club, Inc., in the 1950s to expand the course to 18 holes and to enlarge the club house.

The Oakland Municipal Golf Course has more than met its 1937 objectives. It is a popular course for local residents as well as a major attraction for vacationers. It has provided the town the numerous benefits of municipal open space including a bird sanctuary, protected water supply, and is a buffer to urban growth. It is a prime example of a successful public/private partnership between a municipal government and an in-

corporated club (open to the public) which provides a specific public recreation opportunity at a cost savings to the government.

The following golf professionals have managed the Oakland Golf Course: Jimmy Spencer, Jimmy Crambrull, and Patrick Warren.

This history of the Oakland Municipal Golf Course is in memory of Humbird Lynn Johnson (1947-2009), who loved this course and perfected his lifetime golfing skills here. The Oakland Municipal Golf Course was one of Lynn's favorite places. He took the photo (p. 590) of the course on June 6, 2008. Lynn's great uncle, D. Edward Offutt, was the first president of the Golf Club.

	<p>MEN'S WINTER <b>UNION SUITS</b> Worth \$1.19 at To- days Market Price <b>79c</b></p>	 <p><i>Children's Warm</i> <b>SNOW SUITS</b> Button or Zipper Styles</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>SIZES 1 to 3</td> <td>SIZES 3 to 6</td> <td>SIZES 7 to 14</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>1.19</b></td> <td><b>1.98</b></td> <td><b>2.48</b></td> </tr> </table>	SIZES 1 to 3	SIZES 3 to 6	SIZES 7 to 14	<b>1.19</b>	<b>1.98</b>	<b>2.48</b>
SIZES 1 to 3	SIZES 3 to 6	SIZES 7 to 14						
<b>1.19</b>	<b>1.98</b>	<b>2.48</b>						
	<p>Men's Warm Flannelette <b>SHIRTS</b> Regular 89c Value <b>69c</b></p>							
	<p>MEN'S COAT <b>Sweaters</b> BROWN OR BLUE <b>\$1.39</b></p>							
<p><i>Men's Blanket-Lined</i> <b>O'all Jackets = \$1.98</b></p>								
<p><b>THE HALF PRICE STORES</b> "WE BUY FOR CASH AND SELL FOR LESS" <b>OAKLAND MARYLAND</b></p>								



# Oakland Flood Of 1938

by John A. Grant



Workers string ropes at the corner of Liberty and Second Streets to aid pedestrians. Visible from the left are Hinebaugh's Restaurant, the HP (Half Price) Store, The Harness Shop, Dr. McComas's Office, Harned's Drugstore, Sincell's Dry Goods, Warnick's Restaurant, Jacksons' 5 and 10, and the First National Bank.

Quite often the Youghiogheny River and its tributaries will flood from the melting snow in February and March. The flood waters will spread out over adjacent farms and for about 100 feet from the river bank for a day or two and then go down again. However, the flood of 1937 was a different matter; it came in the summer at the end of July.

During the last week of July of that year it rained every day of the week, with a "cloud burst" on Saturday about 8 o'clock in the morning. Normally, water from the cloudburst would only have raised the level of the water in the creek that ran through the middle of Oakland and under the rail-

road tracks that ran through that part of town. However, there was a dam and a lake on this creek, north of the town. Unfortunately, the breast of the dam which created the lake had been built almost 50 years before and the breast of the dam leaked quite badly, but no one seemed to have noticed it.

The abundance of water from the rainstorm caused the dam to fill and with the additional amount of water, the breast of the dam gave way and caused a flood of water which was headed toward the downtown section of Oakland. On the way, it picked up a lumber pile and carried the boards to the center of town, where they got lodged in the short tunnel under the



**Two cars about to be washed away at the corner of Liberty and Second Streets.**  
railroad.

With such a quantity of water behind them, the boards from the lumber pile created a dam that blocked up the tunnel and caused the great quantity of water to flood the town up to the level of the top of the railroad tracks.

Merchants in the down town section of Oakland were soon surprised to see water coming under the doors of their stores and quickly hurried to put rugs in front of the doors to stop the water from coming in. However, water quickly flooded their stores and drove all the store clerks out of the stores to find safety on higher parts of the town where it wasn't flooding.

Some of the clerks of the Garrett National Bank were in the center of the flood and found safety by standing on window sills inside of the bank. Similar action was taken in other places where the flood waters hit

Fortunately, the dam which had broken only had a limited amount of water to cause the break in the breastwork. It was quickly gone and water on the streets of Oakland began to subside. Then came the miserable task of cleaning up in the stores which had been flooded.

Needless to say, many of the stores had "flood sales" during the next week to help offset the cost of the terrible damage the flood had caused to their places of business.



**A view southward along Second Street.**

# Fort Pendleton and The Civil War

by *The Rev. Dr. Lawrence Sherwood*

*The Civil War activity in Garrett County was relatively mild when compared to events in other parts of the eastern United States. The following material is from "The War Of the Rebellion: a compilation of Official Records of the Union and Confederate armies." Series I Volume XXV, Part I Report—Reports Washington: Government Printing Office 1889 Reprint, the National Historical Society, 1972.*

In the Confederate Raids of Jones and Imboden through Western Virginia and Western Maryland in the Spring of 1863 a detachment was ordered to go to Oakland, Maryland, to disrupt the B&O bridges and cars as well as do all other damage possible.

The detachment was led by Col. A. W. Harman; his official report of the action in which he and his were engaged is as follows.

May 26, 1863

"General: On April 21, I moved my regiment Brock's Gap, with eight days' rations and 40 rounds of ammunition.

On the night of the 26th, with Major Brown's battalion and Captain McNeill's company, I moved in the direction of Oakland, destroyed the turnpike bridge over the North Branch of the Potomac, and reached Oakland at 11 a.m. Surprised and captured a company of 57 men, with 2 com-

missioned officers, and paroled them. Destroyed a railroad bridge east of the town and the railroad and turnpike bridges over the Youghiogheny River; also a train of cars. At Cranberry Summit I captured the guard (15 men) and paroled them, with 20 citizens, and destroyed the railroad property.

I rejoined the command near Independence on the morning of April 28.

At Fairmont, on April 29, the Twelfth Regiment, under Lieut. Col T.B. Massie (I having taken charge of the skirmishers from the Eleventh Regiment and Brown's battalion), supported the skirmishers from the Eleventh Regiment and drove the enemy from Palatine, and cut off their retreat by the railroad bridge.

In this movement, Major White, with the dismounted men of his battalion, supported the Twelfth, and when the enemy's re-enforcements arrived I dismounted my men, and with pistols alone drove the enemy off, and enabled the force on the North Branch of the river the bridge.

At Fairmont we covered the rear of the command until it reached Philippi.

I had Captain Swindler, Lieutenants Kratzer and Anderson, with 4 privates, wounded near Clarksburg. At Fairmont I had 1 man wounded and left there, and 5 men taken prisoner from straggling.

From Weston, on May 6, with the Eleventh Regiment and Witcher's



battalion, I moved to West Union. Found the enemy too strong to capture the town, but employed him in front until the bridges (two in number) were destroyed east of the town. Captured and paroled 19 prisoners.

Next Day proceeded to Harrisville, captured and paroled 75 Home Guards, and rejoined the command the same night. My regiment continued with you to the Valley.

I left Harrisonburg with 405 men, rank and file, and returned with 415. Only 3 men of my command left improperly.

Officers and men bore the hardships of the arduous trip with cheerfulness and fortitude. I cannot discriminate between them. The men who returned to camp were either sent back by the surgeon or on duty.

Respectfully, your obedient servant.

A. W. Harman.

From Union Troops, we have the following Information from the Fourth Ohio, 1861—64 in the bound copies of the *Blue Acorn Press*.

"After a night's needed rest we found ourselves much refreshed on the morning of July 27th, at Oakland, in a charming region surrounded by undulating hills and mountains near at hand. The elevation is over two thousand feet, giving us bracing air, cool summer days and cooler nights — just the place to recuperate failing health and strength. It is evident that it is not to be for us a resort, for we have orders to be ready to march after dinner. It is two o'clock; we're in line, and stand for nearly two hours in a pouring rain while the lightnings flash and the thunders roll. A tree was struck near by, stunning one of the men. At night we camped in a cemetery, although

many took shelter in a hotel. The next morning on board of the cars, we passed through a country with scenery and grandeur enough to inspire the most phlegmatic, and reached New Creek (now called Keyser), at 2 pm. We were in sight of Knobly, formerly Cresap Range and region surveyed by Washington in 1750 for Lord Fairfax.

On the morning of the 7th of August, when wagons, horses and men were no longer scattered for a hundred miles along the railroad, the Regiment started over the mountains and camped at Stone House, whence forty-nine mountain peaks were visible. Another march of fourteen miles brought us at noonday on Thursday, August 8th, to the Pendleton Farm to relieve the Eighth Ohio Volunteers.

The boys could not at first believe that we were only fourteen miles from Oakland, or that there was a squad of rebels within fifty miles of us. They were satisfied that we were near the backbone of the Alleghanies. Why build a fort here, even though the Northwestern Pike did cross the Potomac at this point since no rebels would think of marching through "such a forsaken country" as this seemed to be, where "laurel was as thick as hair on a dog," and infested with bears and wildcats? "How in creation did the Government ever find out that God had such a country," asked one as we stacked arms. "This isn't God's country," replied another. But we soon learned that the "glades" which were near at hand furnished us the best beef we had ever tasted, and that the enemy relished it, too, as was shown by his raids on the cattle ranches.

On account of frequent rains but little work was done until the 14th

of August, when by order of General McClellan and command of Colonel Andrews, and direction, plans and engineering of Captain Olmstead, digging trenches, throwing up breast-works and felling trees toward the river to form an abates, was begun in dead earnest and carried forward with vigor until completion.

Some sixteen thousand days' labor were performed on Fort Pendleton.

Company E remained at Fort Pendleton from October 24th until January 15th. Some of the men were quartered in the Pendleton house, others at the Fort in charge of the cannon

and the remainder in Old Tabb's log cabin, where when the snow was three to ten feet deep and covered with a thick hard crust, a Christmas dinner was had by officers and men, of honey, turkey, venison, oysters and apple-jack. Some wild deer were shot within half a mile of the Fort.

On the 15th of January the two twelve pounder cannons were spiked, the magazine blown up, the supplies that could not be removed were destroyed, the march made to Oakland and for several days quarters were taken in the hotel, and on the 22nd the regiment was joined at Camp Kelley.

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## *Memorials*

### **Eleanor Stemple**

Martha DeBerry

### **Valetta Ashby Elicky**

Bob and Leanna Boal

### **Margaret Marucci**

Dick and Joan Sanders

### **Mary Love**

Bob and Leanna Boal

### **Charlotte Naylor Breed**

Mary Ann Brislin

### **Jim Sherrard**

Bob and Susannah Kurtz

## *Donations*

Gary R. Ruddell

Smith Family Foundation

Wal-Mart Foundation

R. Hugh and Dolores Andrew

Kathryn Gonder

Wayne and Judy Wilt

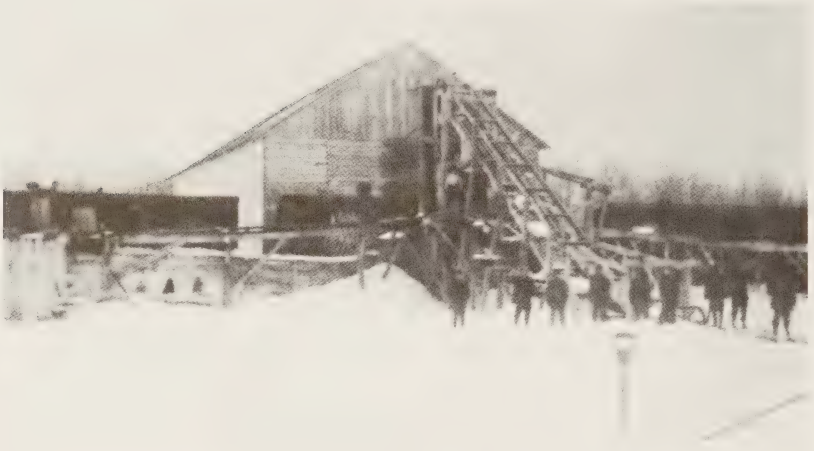
Dr. Michael Wolfe

## *Technology Donation*

Thomas M. Kennedy

# *The Ice House At Mtn. Lake Park*

*by John A. Grant*



There are only a few of us left who can remember the Ice House by the lake at Mtn. Lake Park; it burned down about 1927. During the years that it was functioning it was served by a railroad siding that joined the main line of the B&O just east of the train station that served the town of Mtn. Lake Park. (The remains of this side track can still be found among the trees and brush beside the creek that runs under the highway going to Deer Park.)

The ice house was located beside the lake itself and the process of harvesting it from the lake took place in the winter months when the lake was frozen over. Slabs of ice were cut from the surface of the frozen lake waters by workmen with long poles who pushed them to the edge of the

water. At this point they were pushed onto a conveyer belt that slid the ice up a ramp and into a large barn-like storage building. In the building the slabs of ice were put on top of other ice slabs and covered with saw dust, which would prevent them from melting during warmer days of spring and early summer.

As the winter progressed more ice was cut from the lake and put into the storage building. Finally, when winter ended and warmer weather of spring and summer came along, the ice was removed from the ice house and shipped to places where it was stored again until finally put on train cars that required it.

#### **MR. A. D. NAYLOR'S STORY**

Mr. Naylor had a story about the ice house that he would occasionally



tell over the years, long after the ice house was gone.

It seems that on one winter day, when the ice house was still open, he walked over the ice to the place where workmen were harvesting ice and moving it into the storage house. There had been a light snowfall the night before and the snow covered the new ice which had formed the night before; it was only a couple of inches thick.

Mr. Naylor accidentally walked out onto this new ice and promptly broke into the icy waters of the lake. He pulled himself out and started to run home to Oakland for dry clothes. He got home, took a cold bath, redressed himself and headed downtown to the store for the day.

His end of the story, when he used

to talk about the experience was, "and you know I never sneezed once!"

#### THE ICE HOUSE BURNS

One night back in 1927, the fire whistle of the Oakland Fire Department started to blow about 3 o'clock in the morning. The sky to the east of Oakland was bright red, and it was obvious a building of considerable proportion was on fire. My father learned that the ice house was on fire. (It had been vacant for a number of years.) By the time the firemen arrived the building was completely in flames and there was little chance it could be saved. Within a few minutes it was consumed by flames and collapsed onto the ground. Needless to say, it was full of sawdust which continued to smolder for a day or two; then it was gone for ever.



**1938 Club Now Forming**

If you were a member this year—we don't have to urge you to join. If you weren't a member—make sure of ample funds for a Merry Christmas in 1938—Join Today.

25c a Week Pays You .....	\$12.50
50c a Week Pays You .....	\$25.00
\$1.00 a Week Pays You .....	\$50.00

**First National Bank**

12/9/1937

# Memories of the B&O Railroad

by Kenneth Legge Hardesty

FORM <b>19</b>	2211 (Revised 2-29-51) Sheets 4-21-51	Human Special Form 851-A	FORM <b>19</b>
THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY			
Train Order No. <b>4095</b> <b>Cumberland Dec 10, 1952</b>			
Eastward and Westward		At West Keyser	
Trains, Yard Lugs, Helpers		and ops.	
<p>Special Train Passengers Extra 94 East beginning on following schedule December 10th leave Grafton 245 pm East Grafton 250 pm Hardman 3 pm Westland 313 pm Blau 317 pm M &amp; K 327 pm Rodener 339 pm Kna Alta 349 pm Min Lake Park 406 pm Altamont 414 pm Shuck 426 pm Bond 436 pm Piedmont 448 pm West Keyser 452 pm Arrive Keyser 455 pm Leave Keyser 505 pm McKenzie 522 pm Via Patterson Creek cut off. All freight trains will be into clear and at stand still on all tracks 1 one hour before arrival of this train. Make careful inspection of cars to see no dangerous condition exists and advise dispatcher when inspection is completed. Passenger trains on opposing tracks will be at stand still when special train passes. Switching movements on track adjacent to main track must cease 30 thirty minutes prior to the time this train is due and not resume until passage of this train.</p>			
<p>Com <b>257 A</b> <b>Hardesty</b></p>			
X	M	M	Op.

Train Order No. 4095, dated December 10, 1952. This order was for the special train carrying President Harry Truman.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Westend Cumberland Division extended from Cumberland, Maryland, to Grafton and Fairmont, West Virginia, for the train crews.

We telegraph operators on the West-end worked from Viaduct Tower at Cumberland to Hardman Tower east of Grafton.

My father, David B. Hardesty, was



**Z Tower, located at the west end of Keyser RR Yard. The author worked the 3rd trick (3 pm - 11 pm shift) here in 1952.**

an engineer on the Westend. He lived in Oakland and worked out of the Keyser and Cumberland yards from 1941 - 1973 when he retired. In 1941 the main engine power was steam, and helper engines were used to push the trains up the 17-mile grade from Piedmont Tower to Altamont Tower. On passenger trains, the helper engine was always on the head end and would cut off and go either into the helper pocket or over to No. 2 track at Altamont Tower for the return trip down the grade. Helper engines were also used to push trains up the Deer Park Grade from Mountain Lake Tower to Altamont Tower. At that time a helper station and water station for engines were maintained just east of Mountain Lake Tower on No. 4 track, a siding that existed at Deer Park.

It was always a thrill to see the mallet engines (big, extra-powerful

engines) pushing the loaded trains up the grade. In the summer many visitors to the county would delight to see them perform. My father always remarked that he preferred to operate the steam engines rather than the diesels.

The telegraph operators who worked the Mountain Lake Tower not only controlled the switch and signal operations but had to call the engine crews out to operate the helpers. We got paid an extra \$.25 an hour for calling out helper crews. In 1949 when I worked at the tower, I had the privilege of working with some "old-time" telegraphers: David Walter, Edward Clatterbuck, Dennis Rasche, and Walter "Doc" Price.

The signal maintenance crew that used Mountain Lake Tower as the base of operations for the Terra Altamont leg of track were "Happy" Friend, Dwight Clary, Mitchell Cathell, and



John McBee. They would stop by or check in at the tower for their daily work orders. The track foreman was Fredlein Wolf. One member of his "gang" stands out to me as being extra special—Tony DiSimone, Joe DiSimone's father. He would always come out during all hours of the night in the winter to sweep the snow out of the switches. Tony never learned to drive a car and would walk from his house in Oakland—two miles or more—in all kinds of bad weather. If a helper engine was available, however, and the need was urgent, an engine was sent to pick up Tony. Other track maintenance crews were located in Deer Park and at Altamont. As well as I can remember, Ernest Tasker was foreman of the Deer Park crew and Bill Schmidt foreman of the Altamont crew.

Some of the engineers on the helper crews were "Buck" Mosser, Earl Georg, Harry Thrasher, David Hardesty, and Clarence Spear. Prior to World War II, Clarence served as sheriff of Garrett County, and for many years prior to that was a deputy sheriff. Calling crews to work was sometimes quite a job. One had not only to call a worker's home but also various clubs, restaurants, bars, etc. Helper station employees were Clyde Shipley, Larnie Callis, "Brother" Gibson, and, I believe, two others, but after almost 60 years, my memory fades. Usually there were two steam engines at the tipple being serviced by the above crew.

It was a fast-paced time at the tower in those days. The plant was

operated by manual switches and electric pull signals. Coal "Drags" (trains loaded with coal) often had to wait at the home signals for helper engines to push them up the Deer Park Grade.

This was also the time of the "Cincinnati," a fast blue-colored steam engine used for passenger service west. Railroaders called it the "Blue Goose," and Oakland residents always enjoyed watching it go through town.

My grandfather, Thomas B. Hardesty, born November 1, 1888, was a fireman on the steam engines at age 16. He was promoted to engineer before he was 21. From 1904 until 1907 he worked on the steam engines when there were switch engines located at Hutton on the spur track, Rivard, and at Terra Alta. He lived most of his life there, and in 1907 married Ruie Fern Sanders, daughter of David Sanders. They lived on the family farm on Sanders Lane.

The control tower at Terra Alta was a busy place, equipped with electrical hand-pulled switches and signals. Helper engines would push the heavy coal drags from the tower at Rowlesburg up Cranberry Grade—approximately 2,800 feet elevation—to the Terra Alta Tower, where the helper engines would cut off in front of the tower and return to Rowlesburg.

Terra Alta Tower also handled Western Union—we worked through Pittsburgh on this. After all these years I still remember how to telegraph. Some of the tower telegraph operators I worked with 60 years ago were: Alex



**B&O Engine 7127 with engineer Dan Rumer standing on the engine platform and the author's father, David B. Hardesty, fireman. Circa 1943.**

Zeller, Frank "Chip" Downer, John Murphy, and Bill Ott. Using the telegraph key, we used symbols or short-cuts for words. Mountain Lake Tower was MK, Terra Alta, CA; Altamont, AM; Strecker, HX; Piedmont, P; West Keyser, Z; Keyser, KY; M & K Junction (Rowlesburg), R; Hardman, H; Bond, BA; Deer Park, DE; Hutton, HN; Oakland, OA; and West End, WS. We used a code formula to report train movement into and out of the various towers. For example, a coal train Engine 7602 going east between Terra Alta and Mountain Lake Towers was: OS CA MK MK CA XE 7602 by 1:25 CA. This was recorded on the block sheet at each station and in turn reported to the train dispatcher

in Cumberland.

Some of the telegraph operators working at Altamont Tower over the years were Jesse Woods, "Bunk" Comp, Fred Gates, Bill Welch, Harland Bitteringer, "Babe" Filsinger, Leo Smith, Sam Butt, Clint Shrout, John R. Smith, Jerry Browning, Don Welch, and myself.

Strecker Tower was located about two miles east of Swanton. A runaway switch there was used in case any eastbound train went out of control. It would automatically be switched onto a spur track. There was a westbound siding track between Strecker and Altamont at the top of the 17-mile grade. The track foreman in this section was John Rhodes. The tower

operators were Jim Stickley, "Babe" Filsinger, Ken Hardesty, John Smith, Donnie Welch, Leo Smith, and Jerry Browning.

The next tower on the 17-mile grade going east was Bond. It too had an eastbound run-away track. There was also a westbound spur track there that was used mostly to set off "hot box" cars—cars with overheated wheel bearings. Tower operators here used old-time hand-pulled levers to switch trains near the tower, but for the next hazard down the grade—"The Big Curve"—they had electric switches. Midway between Bond and the Curve was an inspection "shanty" for the "car knockers" to use. These men would inspect all coal trains stopped there for hot boxes. Two men would work the train. One was "Bing" Keller. I can't remember the other. The operators at Bond Tower were Wayne Goff, Ken Hardesty, Jerry Browning, Jimmy Rhodes, Wayne Shaw, and Don Welch. I worked the "Second Trick," 3 pm—11 pm, for a good many years.

The next tower going east down the 17-mile grade was Piedmont. It was located near the town railroad tracks, one of which was used for coal drags going to the Keyser yard, another, for yard engines bringing cars to Luke Mill and returning to Keyser yard.

Some of the operators who worked at Piedmont Tower were Wayne Shaw, Jim Rhodes, Ken Hardesty, and several old-timers whose names I can't remember. The track foreman was Jimmy Greco, the signal maintenance

man, Lester Chaney. Piedmont Tower was torn down in the 1950s and the switches and signals were controlled from West Keyser Tower. This tower is sometimes referred to as "Z" Tower because that is its telegraph code.

A westbound siding runs from Keyser Station to Z Tower; it is used mainly as a holding track to allow another train to pass by. The operator works with the yard master or one of his clerks in the handling of yard engines moving cars across the main tracks. Some of the telegraph operators who worked at Z Tower in past years were James Rhodes, Wayne Shaw, Ken Hardesty, Harvy Nesbith, and Wallace Maulk.

The skilled Morse code telegraphers were truly artists in their field of communication. They received a small amount of pay years ago and worked long hours—12-hour shifts. I remember receiving \$.50 an hour for the first few months. The hourly rate of pay differed from tower to tower. At Mountain Lake it was \$1.25 in the 1940s, plus \$.25 for calling the helper crews. Strecker Tower had the lowest pay rate at \$1.10, although even this was good for the Oakland community back then.

The towers are almost all gone now. The few left are MK, Z, and the Viaduct on the Cumberland Westend Division. Phones are now used in the trains so that contact can be made with the tower and the dispatcher for instructions.

A time in history has passed. Fond memories are instilled that will never be forgotten.



# *Edison, Ford and Firestone Travel Through Western Maryland in the Summer of 1921*

*by Francis Champ Zumbrun*



The "Vagabonds," Ford, Edison, and Firestone (L-R) enjoying a weekend of camping with President Warren Harding (third from left) at Licking Creek.

*Editor's Note: This the first in a series of articles to be run in the Glades Star chronicling the camping trip of Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, and Harvey Firestone in western Maryland in 1921. The photos are from Norman Braner's book, There to Breathe the Beauty. It is available to view at the Ruth Enlow Library, Oakland.*

*"I like to get out in the woods and live close to nature. Every man does. It is in his blood. It is his feeble protest against civilization."*

—Thomas Edison at the Muddy Creek falls, Maryland, 1921

In the summer of 1921, Thomas Edison, world famous inventor, Henry Ford, automobile manufacturer, and Harvey Firestone, tire magnate, camped out at two different locations in western Maryland. Traveling on Route 40 from one campsite to the other took these well-known men from east to west through the entire width of Allegany County.

From July 21 to 27, they camped



**The Firestones, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Sr., slide over the rocks as they enjoy a playful moment in Swallow Falls, July 28.**

in Washington County on a 200-acre farm located along Licking Creek, about six miles east of Hancock, Maryland. From July 27 to 31, they camped in Garrett County along Muddy Creek, at present day Swallow Falls State Park.

Edison, Ford, and Firestone were business partners and knew each other from working together on various business projects over the years. Their working relationship transformed into a bond of great friendship through the experiences they shared camping together about two weeks each summer from 1915 through 1924. On these camping trips, these wealthy captains of industry called themselves "vagabonds" as they roughed it together in the great outdoors away from civilization.

The publicity that followed these celebrated men on their summer adventures helped to introduce to the general public the pleasure of motorized recreational touring, outdoor recreation, and camping. Historians have noted that these camping trips

were "the first notable linking of the automobile and outdoor recreation."

The loud sounds of the motor caravan breaking the quiet of the rural countryside would have certainly drawn the attention of anyone within hearing distance. An Allegany County citizen standing at the right place at the right time along the National Road on the afternoon of July 27, 1921, would have certainly noticed the long caravan of vehicles passing through the area.

Their trip from Licking Creek to Muddy Creek took them all the way through the entire length of Allegany County from east to west on the then dirt covered and little traveled National Road.

Allegany citizens would have seen Thomas Edison, the self-appointed navigator, leading the motorcade in an open touring car with compass and map in hand. Edison told reporters that their plan that summer "was to get to the wildest sections" of "the Cumberland Mountains."

Harvey Firestone later noted that

Edison disliked paved roads and never selected a main road if he could find a back road to their destination. Based on Firestone's comments, Edison would have enjoyed traveling on back roads of Green Ridge State Forest.

In the early afternoon the caravan of cars and trucks crested Town Hill, perhaps taking time to stop and see the spectacular scenery from the Town Hill overlook. Popular postcards at that time described this area as "the beauty spot of Maryland."

The "vagabonds" certainly would have noticed the newly constructed Town Hill Hotel, said to be the first hotel constructed along the national turnpike in western Maryland to cater to automobile traffic. The Town Hill Hotel is still in business today and is an incredibly popular bed and breakfast tourism destination.

On Green Ridge Mountain, they would have seen a seemingly unending apple orchard stretching as far west as Polish Mountain. Most of the apple trees they saw were part of the Mertens family Green Ridge Valley Orchard Company that had gone bankrupt three years earlier in 1918. Today much of this area makes up Green Ridge State Forest.

The section of Scenic Rt. 40 the vagabonds drove through between Belle Grove and Fifteen Mile Creek, surrounded by Green Ridge State Forest, is considered today to be one of the most pristine sections remaining between Baltimore, Maryland, and Vandalia, Illinois. Valued for its magnificent views and natural beauty, this section of the National



**Camping vehicles arriving for the second camp at Oakland, Maryland, called Camp Swallow Falls, July 27.**

Road was recently listed in 2006 as a "Last Chance Scenic Place" by Scenic Maryland, Inc.

On the vagabonds went, past the Flintstone Hotel and The Old Stone House on the east side of Martin's Mountain, through the Cumberland Narrows, ascending the Allegany Front starting at the foothills west of LaVale, passing the old Clarysville Inn, and the historic Failing's Hotel Gunter in Frostburg, and onward toward present day Swallow Falls State Park.

From July 21-27, 1921, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, and Harvey Firestone camped at a site about six miles east of Hancock in Washington County, Maryland. The 200-acre farm where they camped was located about one mile north of the National Turnpike (Route 40) along Licking Creek.

During the weekend President Warren G. Harding joined the "vagabonds," a term the wealthy industri-



## *1921 Itinerary*

- July 21 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford sailed on the yacht *Sialia* from Detroit, Michigan, to Cleveland, Ohio, to meet Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Firestone, Sr., Group joined at Columbiana, Ohio, by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Firestone, Y., and Russell Firestone. Party completed by Mr. and Mrs. Edsel Ford. Dinner served by Women's Missionary Society of the Grace Reformed church, then group motored to Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania. Stayed overnight at hotel.
- July 22 Fords and Firestones traveled to Hagerstown, Maryland, met Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Elison and Bishop and Mrs. William Anderson. Crew set up camp at Pecktonville, Maryland.
- July 23 President Warren G. Harding and his secretary, George B. Christian, Jr., greeted by campers at Funkstown, Maryland, and escorted to the campsite. Men took an afternoon ride on Firestone's saddle horses.
- July 24 Another horse ride taken after breakfast. Bishop Anderson conducted church services in a wood chapel. President Harding left camp for return to Washington, D.C.
- July 25 Camped on at Pecktonville. Mr. and Mrs. Edsel Ford left for home.
- July 26 Remained at Pecktonville.
- July 27 Firestone horses shipped to Akron, Ohio. Broke camp, motored through Keyzers Ridge, Maryland, lunched at Deer Park. Set up camp at Swallow Falls, Maryland.
- July 28 Spent a leisurely day at the Swallow Falls camp. Borrowed ponies from neighboring campers.
- July 29 Remained at Swallow Falls, relaxed and enjoyed surrounding nature.
- July 30 Heavy rainstorms and impassable roads forced the part, to remain in camp at Swallow Falls.
- July 31 Broke camp, then moved out to Elkins, West Virginia. Stayed at a hotel as camp equipment did not arrive.
- August 1 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Firestone, Jr., and Russell Firestone left camp for Washington, D.C. Camped at Cheat River near Elkins. Ford and Firestone were requested to return to their business enterprises.
- August 2 Campers departed Elkins to Fairmont (noon). Rained at Wheeling, West Virginia, causing reroute through Morgantown to Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and a stop at the Summit Hotel.
- August 3 Left Uniontown for Pittsburgh, where Edisons and Fords continued on to their respective homes.



**Firestone sits on the thirsty cow pony that was borrowed from a few young people who visited the Swallow Falls camp on Muddy Creek, July 28.**

alists called themselves when they camped together. Today, the campsite is located at Camp Harding County Park, where a plaque memorializes the gathering of these famous campers.

This was not the first time the vagabonds had been in the "Old Line State." In 1918, while traveling from their camp site near Greensburg, Pennsylvania, to Leadmine, West Virginia, the vagabonds traveled through Garrett County. On this trip they stopped to eat lunch at Swallow Falls, and bought supplies in Oakland. John Burroughs, the well-known naturalist and writer, was with them at this time.

But it wasn't until 1921 that the vagabonds actually camped in western Maryland. There were several other "firsts" that distinguished the 1921 outing from others since the vagabonds began camping together starting in 1915: It was the first time their wives joined them; it was the

first time the President of the United States camped with them; and it was the first time their friend John Burroughs was not present, having passed away earlier that year.

About mid-morning on July 23, Ford, Edison, and Firestone left their campsite at Licking Creek and drove west on Rt. 40 to Funkstown, Maryland, to meet President Harding, who left the White House that morning about 9:30 a.m.

Large crowds, alerted by the press, gathered in Hagerstown along the road to watch the long caravan of vehicles pass containing the famous people as they traveled back to their camping site at Licking Creek.

President Harding's group included more than 40 people, including Secret Service personnel and ten White House photographers. The vagabonds' entourage included family members, cooks, truck drivers, and



**A cheery campfire provides the setting for memories that last long after the embers die out and the trip is over. The night scene is at Swallow Falls, Maryland.**

maintenance staff. All in all, counting the public who came to see the well-known men, there were at times more than 100 people meandering around the camping area.

Harding and the vagabonds arrived back at the campsite about one o'clock. Newspaper reporters wrote that the President arrived just in time to help cook for the entire party. It was said that Harding took off his coat, and with a "business like grip" around an axe, cut enough wood to heat the food for everyone.

The chopping must have tired him out, for soon after lunch, Harding retired to his tent to take a nap. Edison also was also captured, by a photographer, napping on the ground with a pillow under an elm tree.

During this time Ford and Firestone conducted a wood-chopping contest for the benefit of the press and on-lookers. Despite the noisy wood

chopping contest going on outside his tent, after an hour's nap, the President emerged from his tent rested and refreshed, and immediately went to the wood pile to chop more firewood.

Not long after this, the President and Firestone walked over to Licking Creek, where Harding reminisced to Firestone about the swimming holes he enjoyed as a child.

Firestone had shipped six horses from Ohio to the camp site. The President took advantage of this and rode twice during his stay, a reporter noting that it was "the first horseback work he had done in many years."

The publicity following the adventures of the President and the vagabonds on this camping trip in Maryland captured the imagination of the public across America. In the early 1900s, camping for fun in the outdoors was a rather new concept. Some people in urban areas thought



that the only people who camped in tents were either in the Army or were suffering hard times.

Many people worked a six-day work week, laboring ten or more hours each day. There was little time for recreation. As more leisure time became available, people wanted to tour around in their automobiles and have adventures, just like the vagabonds they read about in the newspapers. This created a demand for more public parks and forests, like Green Ridge State Forest, one of Maryland's public land crown jewels.

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*"The woods will get you if you don't watch out... Stay out close to nature and you won't want to come back to the civilizing influences of trolley cars, telephones, porcelain bathtubs and nickel plumbing."*

—Thomas Edison at Muddy Creek, MD, July 1921

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The general public read with great interest the articles that appeared in newspapers across the country reporting the camping adventures of the vagabonds in western Maryland. The Maryland newspapers included photographs showing the famous men participating in various outdoor activities with President Harding, from relaxing in canvas-backed wooden folding chairs to horseback riding.

One photograph captured Edison napping comfortably on the bare ground. Soon after that photograph was taken, President Harding gently put a newspaper over Edison's face and smiled at a child looking on in the crowd and said, "We can't let the gnats eat him up, now can we?"

After returning to the campsite from a horseback ride, the men went fishing for about 30 minutes in Licking Creek, catching nothing. Edison was overheard saying, "I don't believe there ever were any fish in this creek."

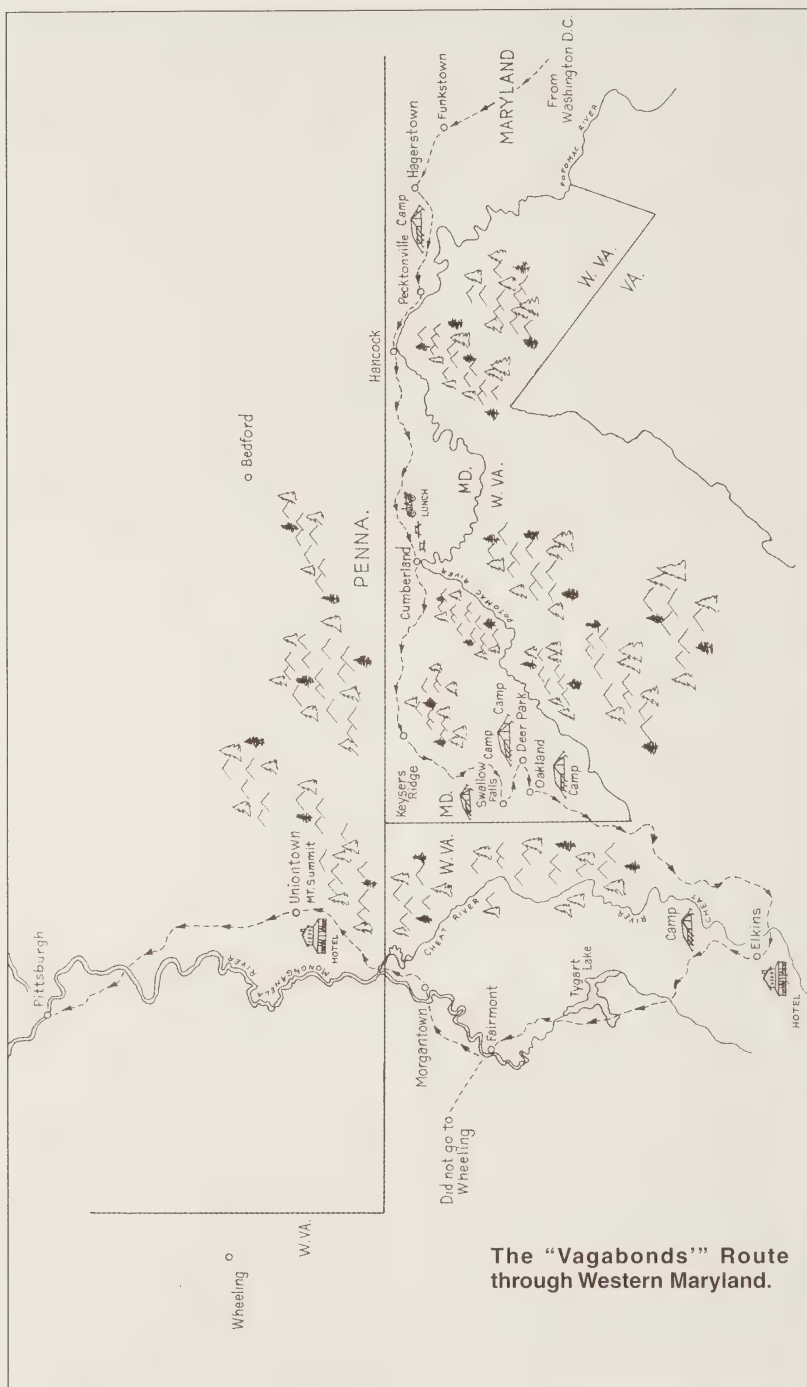
A local music dealer from Hagerstown made arrangements for a player piano to be at the campsite. After dinner, the camping party danced to popular music on a small wooden platform. Afterwards they sat around the campfire in a large circle listening to Thomas Edison tell tall tales.

Despite the presence of the President, an informal atmosphere prevailed around the campfire. President Harding seemed to really enjoy himself. Edison and Ford addressed Harding as "Mr. President," while the Chief Executive addressed the vagabonds by their first names. Ford, Edison and the President were the last to leave the campfire, staying up to about two a.m. before retiring and spending "a night under the canvas."

On Sunday, July 24, the camping party started stirring about 6:30. A breakfast was served followed by another short fifteen minute horse ride.

A Sunday memorial service followed, dedicated to memory of John Burroughs, the famous nature writer and naturalist who passed away earlier that year. This was their first campout without him since they started camping. The vagabonds deeply missed the company of their friend.

Hundreds of people were present at the service, coming from nearby farms and communities to see and meet the famous men. Bishop Ander-



son, a Methodist minister from Ohio and friend of Firestone, presided over the service.

The Bishop began the service reminding everyone that the forest was God's first temple. Mrs. Firestone played several hymns on the piano that were appropriate to the memory of Burroughs, including "Rock of Ages," and "Nearer My God to Thee."

"Rock of Ages" hinted of Burroughs' interest for rocks and geology, a topic he often wrote about. The verse in the hymn, "when I soar to worlds unknown," reminded everyone of Burroughs' love for birds.

"Nearer My God to Thee" was inspired from an Old Testament biblical story about Jacob. Night had overtaken Jacob while he was traveling through the wilderness. As darkness descended, Jacob was forced to set up camp and sleep under the stars, using a rock for his pillow. Jacob awoke with a new revelation.

Refreshed and renewed the next morning, and surrounded by the beauty of the great outdoors, Jacob was inspired to proclaim, "This is an awesome place!" Coincidentally, as I was writing this article, I heard a Florida visitor repeat the same words about Green Ridge State Forest, "This is an awesome place"—a sentiment certainly shared by the Vagabonds at times on their campouts over the years.

The verses from the popular hymn, "like a bird on joyful wings" flying under the "sky, sun, moon, and stars," reminded the Vagabonds of auto-touring around the country

with Burroughs like carefree birds to the grand places of nature.

The camping adventures of the Vagabonds spurred great interest in outdoor recreation and a demand for public land for motor-touring and camping. In 1921, only 4,000 acres of state "forest reserves" existed in Maryland. Today, Maryland enjoys close to 500,000 acres of public land. The publicity following the Vagabonds helped to bring about public support to acquire additional land for public parks and forests across the country.

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*"Every man in his heart revolts at civilization and will revert back to [nature] if given half a chance.... We don't live long enough to find out what life is all about, but we know what civilization is—it is a mere veneer that keeps on getting thicker, but never too thick to pierce.... It will be 15,000 years I think, before man will reach such a high point of civilization where he cannot and will not want to go back to [reconnect with nature]."*

—Thomas Edison at Muddy Creek Falls, Maryland, July 1921.

After the outdoor memorial service for their friend, John Burroughs, at Licking Creek on July 24, a luncheon was served. President Harding thanked everyone and assured them that he had a splendid time. At about 4:00 in the afternoon, after spending a little more than twenty-four hours with the vagabonds, President Harding and his large entourage of security guards and photographers returned to the White House.

The vagabonds enjoyed the camp-





**A view of the rolling countryside and rural roadway that led the campers to western Maryland campsite, near Oakland, July 27.**

site so much that they decided to stay a few more days after the President left. They fished at the conjunction of Licking Creek and the Potomac River and studied the canal boats hauling coal on the C&O Canal. The industrialists concluded the river's water power were not properly harnessed; if it was, they believed that the C&O Canal would not be needed.

"Houses could be heated and lighted, and factories operated on cheap water power," Ford told a newspaper reporter.

On July 27, after a weeklong stay along Licking Creek, the vagabonds broke camp. Their camp site is now a Washington County park, Camp Harding, named in honor of the President who camped there. In 1921, the site was still the farm of Emmert and Mary Mason. Not long after he departed, Henry Ford showed his gratitude for allowing the vagabonds to camp on their property by sending the Masons a brand new Model T Ford as a gift.

The Vagabonds' camping trip in

western Maryland was not finished. They had accepted an invitation to camp along Muddy Creek, in Garrett County, next to a spectacular waterfall, a wonderwork of nature. The invitation is said to have come from Fred W. Besley, Maryland's first State Forester.

The distance from Licking Creek to Muddy Creek was about 90 miles. They traveled west on Route 40 through Allegany County, past Green Ridge Mountain, through the ridge and valley province, and onward, to the Allegheny Plateau, and finally, Garrett County. At Keyzers Ridge, they turned south on present day Route 219 toward Oakland, Maryland, retracing the same route they took in 1918 traveling from between campsites in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

On their 1921 camping expedition, they turned south at Oakland, Maryland, and enjoyed a late lunch along a creek at Deer Park, Maryland. From there they traveled on unimproved roads about nine miles and

set up their campsite at present day Swallow Falls State Park.

In 1921, this 600-acre tract of land was privately owned by the Grand Masonic Lodge of Pennsylvania and West Virginia, who used it as a retreat center. The vagabonds camped under an ancient old-growth stand of Eastern hemlock and white pine next to the magnificent Muddy Creek Falls, the highest natural waterfall in Maryland.

Besley knew that the Vagabonds' visit to Muddy Creek, with the positive press that was sure to follow, would capture the attention of the public. That attention would encourage the public to support Besley's efforts to promote forest conservation and outdoor recreation in Maryland.

In 1923, two years after the Vagabonds' visit, Besley, through the State Board of Forestry, entered into a lease agreement with the Masonic lodge. Offutt Johnson, a retired DNR employee, and an avid Maryland State Park and forestry historian, shared this valuable historic information about the beginnings of Swallow Falls State Park.

"In 1923, The State Board of Forestry and the Grand Lodge of the Masons entered into an arrangement, that in exchange for the Masons allowing public use of the property, the state would manage and protect 'the Falls of Muddy Creek' as an Auxiliary State Forest," said Johnson. "The lease management agreement included a right of first refusal, should the lodge wish to sell or donate the property in the future. This agreement remained

in effect until 1940, when the Lodge donated the tract to the State of Maryland, the Department of Forestry, two years before Besley retired in 1942."

Public lands like Swallow Falls State Park and Green Ridge State Forest still serve as retreats where the public can come to relax, renew, and revitalize themselves in natural surroundings.

Vagabond John Burroughs perhaps expressed the joy people experience in Maryland's parks and forests best when he said,

"To the woods and the fields or to the hills...there to breathe their beauty like the very air...to be not a spectator of, but a participator in, it all."

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*"...we should be using nature's inexhaustible sources of energy – sun, wind, and tide.... I'd put my money on sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that. I wish I had more years left!"*

—Thomas Edison (circa 1931)

On the afternoon of July 27, 1921, crowds of people, getting word that the vagabonds were in the area, started gathering along the streets of Oakland, Maryland, hoping to get a glimpse of the world famous men. The vagabonds sometimes caused a commotion when they arrived in a small town. One unknowing observer described the scene as the vagabonds entered Oakland as something like a circus coming to town.

The crowd was perhaps wondering: Would the vagabonds stop for

supplies and food as they did in 1918, when they passed through Oakland on their way to a campsite at Leadmine, West Virginia?

On this 1918 trip, John Burroughs, the famed naturalist and writer, was traveling with them. Several versions of the following story survive; this one is my favorite:

Fred W. Besley, Maryland's first state forester, assigned Abraham Lincoln "Link" Sines, a well known Garrett County State Forest warden, to serve as the Vagabonds' guide through Garrett County. Upon arriving in Oakland, they stopped at Naylor's hardware store to pick up camping supplies. Link introduced the men to Mr. Naylor, the storeowner. The encounter went something like this:

Link said: "Mr. Naylor, I'd like to introduce you to Thomas Edison; he invented that light bulb on your ceiling. This is Henry Ford; he manufactured your car parked outside your store. And this is Mr. Firestone; he made the tires that are on your car." Mr. Naylor, by this time a bit skeptical, looked at Link and said: "And I suppose you're going to tell me that this man [Burroughs] with the beard is Santa Claus!"

In 1921, the vagabonds didn't stop at Oakland, but continued on to Deer Park to eat a late lunch. Afterwards, they traveled about 9 miles on dirt covered roads to Muddy Creek. They arrived around twilight, and to their dismay, found a group of young boys camping at the premier spot they wanted next to Muddy Creek Falls. The vagabonds persuaded the boys

with a ten dollar bill to move to another campsite further down-stream toward Swallow Falls.

A bridge on the road coming into their campsite caved in from the weight of the camp kitchen truck following the main party, blocking the road. As a result, no one from the public, except the young boys camping nearby, could visit them. This seclusion provided the vagabonds the greatest solitude they had known since they began camping together.

They set up their tents and cots just in time for darkness, ate a modest meal from tin cans, and then turned in after a long day of travel, sleeping an hour longer than usual the next morning.

The vagabonds were in great spirits. That first morning they stared at the Muddy Creek Falls for hours, sitting in canvas-backed lawn chairs, sharing humorous stories of their childhood, surrounded with the background music of the roaring waterfall, the songs of forest birds, with the fresh, whispering breezes gently rustling the ancient hemlock canopy above their heads.

Edison, Ford and Firestone are remembered more in history as industrialists rather than camping and their interest in the outdoors. Henry Ford, the wealthy captain of industry, often insisted he was in reality just a very simple man, a man of nature; a person who was an avid bird watcher and amateur astronomer.

Thomas Edison's inventions in history overshadow his interest and study of plants. However, his research





**Luncheon by the roadside just outside Cumberland, Maryland, provides a break in the trip to the second camp on July 27.**

involving plants contributed significantly to the success of some of his inventions. For instance, Edison studied over six thousand plant specimens around the world before discovering that Japanese bamboo was the best organic fiber to use as a filament for the incandescent light bulb. Edison discovered that bamboo glowed and didn't burn when an electronic current was passed through it.

The last patent Edison filed before his death in 1931 also involved the study of plants. In the 1920s, America was dependent on rubber from foreign sources. These countries were manipulating the market so that the cost of rubber was skyrocketing, negatively affecting our national security and economy.

To resolve this problem, in 1927, a business partnership was formed by Edison, Ford, and Firestone to find a more economical way to produce a domestic supply of natural rubber to

decrease our dependence from foreign sources.

After studying over 17,000 plants over a four year period, Edison determined that the common goldenrod plant, which grows abundantly in the United States, was the best source to produce natural rubber economically. Through the hybridization of goldenrod, Edison was able to increase the production of latex, a component of rubber, from five percent to 12 percent.

Nevertheless, at Muddy Creek Falls in the summer of 1921, the vagabonds were more concerned about connecting with nature, than about inventions and industry. As John Burroughs noted, the vagabonds were seeking direct contact with nature, to "cheerfully endure wet, cold, smoke, mosquitoes, black flies, and sleepless nights, just to touch naked reality once more."

*Part II to appear in next Glade Star.*

# Oakland Accessions

*August 18 - November 16, 2009*

- Original Meat Cutting Block from  
 Miller's Market .....*gift of Rob Michael*
- Fume and Smoke Mask, Machinery's Handbook,  
 Bayonet .....*gifts of Ethel Coulter*
- Picture of "Holly Hock Hut" Cottage .....*gift of Lee Nelson*
- Wool Patchwork Quilt, ca. 1870s .....*gift of Martha DeBerry*
- Receipts for Subscription to Garrett Journal and  
 Payment of County and State Taxes for  
 William H. O'Brien .....*gifts of Linda Fike*
- Genealogy of Joab Jonah Friend .....*gift of Pat Thompson*
- Book "Friendsville Maryland: A Brief History" .....*gift of Alice Eary*
- Picture of Garrett National Bank, Copy of Picture of  
 First National Bank .....*gifts of Lenora Crowe*
- Eye cup, Garrett Co. Centennial Cup, Catholic Prayer Book, St. Peter's  
 Catholic Church Paperweight, Rosary, Booklet of Poems by Robert  
 Browning, Garrett National Notepad, Thermometer in Holder, 1914  
 Maryland Cookbook, Johnson's Lister Dental Floss, Pencil Lead in Holder,  
 Light Drying Oil, Photo Album, Garrett Co. Centennial Souvenir Issues,  
 Bowman's Marina Calendar, Postcards, Photographs of Browning-Wolfe  
 Families, Photograph of Cee-Dee Restaurant, Warnick's Restaurant Card,  
 Note card with drawing of Cleveland Cottage .....*gifts of Shirley Panther*
- Poem on William-James Hotel Stationery,  
 Christening gown .....*gifts of Lawrence Sherwood*
- Mr. Osbourn's Wedding Suit .....*gift of Delores Hayden*
- Copy of Photo of Oakland Golf Course and  
 Taxi Service .....*gifts of Jerry Moyer*
- Civil War Era Pitcher .....*gift of Bob Boal*
- Photograph of Gilbert-Brown Band, Copy of Photo of Lawton's Garage,  
 Copy of Photo of Rasche Family Orchestra, Card with Picture  
 of Gen. George Crook .....*gifts of Lt. Col. William O. Treaty*
- Books and Baby Clothing .....*gifts of Edward Elicky*
- Book "Maryland's Vanishing Lives" .....*gift of John D. Watkins*
- Embossing Stamp Maching from Kendall  
 Supply Co. ....*gift of Wayne Johnson*
- Bricks from Deer Park Hotel .....*gift of Charles Nolan*
- Map of Deer Park, MD, 1889 .....*anonymous gift*
- Photograph of Daniel Edwin Offutt II,  
 Offutt Family Bible .....*loan from Daniel E. Offutt*
- Model T Tool Box .....*gift of Bob and Leanna Boal*
- Johnathan "Sugar Joe" Friend Genealogy .....*gift of Pat Thompson*

# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or  
joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only  
one copy of each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550



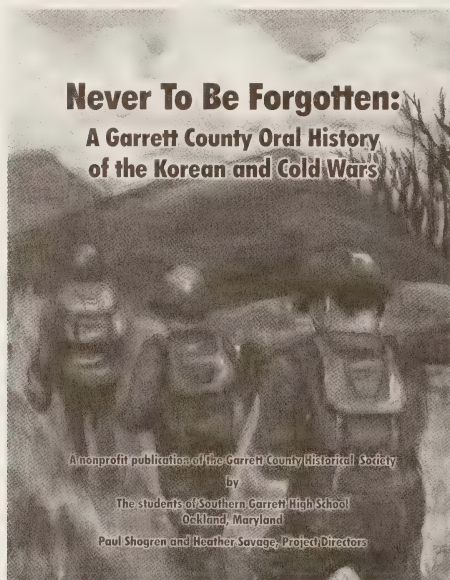
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

# Periodical



*Featuring Our Newest Publication:*

## **Never To Be Forgotten: A Garrett County Oral History of the Korean and Cold Wars**



This book is a sequel to the World War II book, also done by the students of Southern Garrett High School. The project was started under the direction of Matt Novak, and was continued and completed under the direction of Heather Savage and Paul Shogren as Project Directors.

**The book is available for purchase at the Museum  
for \$21.20, tax included.**

# THE Glades Star

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VOL. 11, NO. 17

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

MARCH 2010

## *A Garrett County Historical Society “Dream Come True”*



See story on page 623.

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

### OFFICERS 2007-2008

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1st Vice President ..... James Ashby  
2nd Vice President ..... Paul Shogren  
Treasurer ..... Joanne Ashby  
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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

CORRESPONDENCE: *Glades Star*, 107 S. Second St., Oakland. MD 21550.

## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items: [www.GCHSmuseum.com](http://www.GCHSmuseum.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper: [www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce: [www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email: [tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland: phone: 301-334-3226

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# *A Garrett County Historical Society “Dream Come True”*



**Architect rendering of the new museum seen from the front.**

For many years the officers and directors of the Garrett County Historical Society have harbored the dream that “just maybe” some day the society would be fortunate enough to be able to build a “Museum of Transportation” to showcase antique and collectable carriages and automobiles as well as to relate to museum visitors the extremely important role played by modes of transportation in the development of this beautiful mountaintop region.

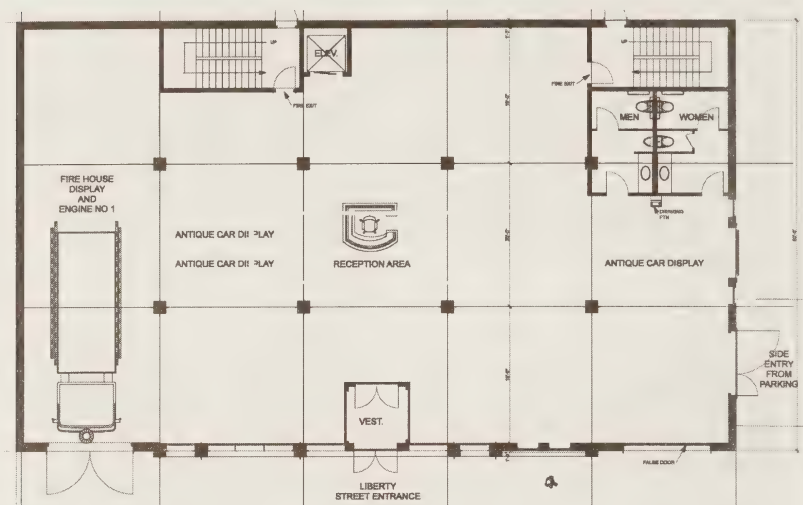
This “dream” is now becoming reality for Garrett County and the local area through a most generous gift for the construction of a nearly 10,000 square foot museum building from the Howard and Audrey

Naylor Trust through the local Community Trust Foundation.

Philanthropists Howard and Audrey Naylor desired that their gifts to the area promote history and education—especially education. Their children were well aware of their parents’ desire to provide charitable awards that would both promote learning and preserve history. The Naylor Family Trust, administered by sons Alonzo (Lonnie) and Bartlett



**Rendering from the parking lot side.**

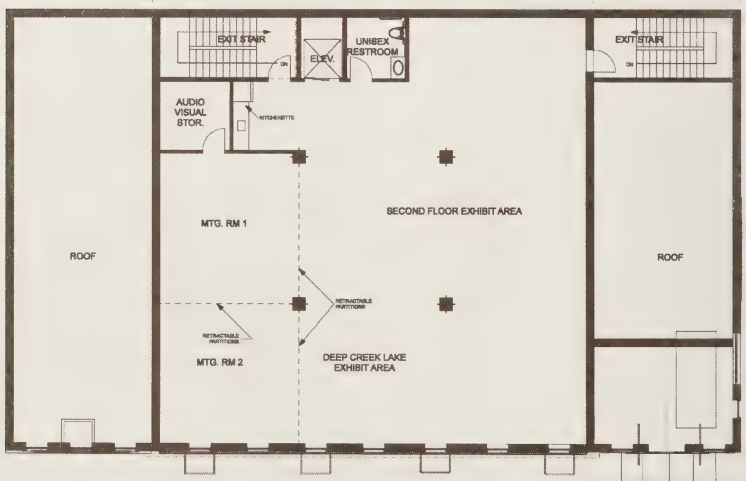


**Floor plan, first floor.**

(Bart), saw our GCHS “dream” as being just the type of project that their parents desired. Educating the local public as well as visiting tourists in terms of the proud history of the region has always been the primary goal of the Garrett County Historical Society.

The new “handicapped accessible”

Garrett County Museum of Transportation will provide an open 6,000 square foot first floor display area for antique automobiles, carriages, sleighs and the famous 1920s LaFrance Fire Engine owned by the Oakland VFD. Additionally located on the first floor will be many smaller transportation artifacts as well as a large number of



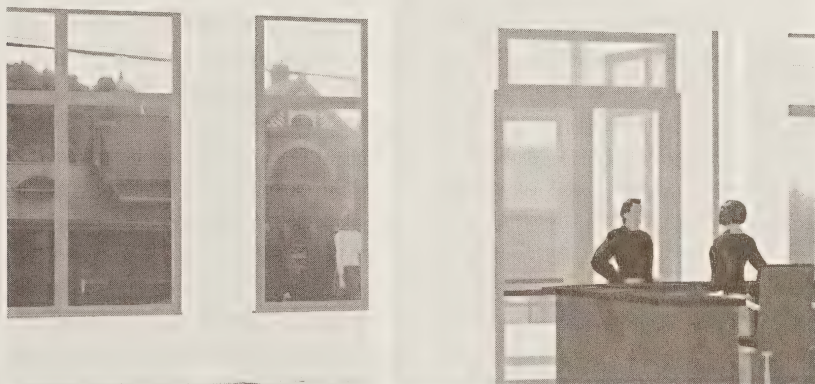
**Floor plan, second floor.**

photos relating to the history of transportation in the region.

The “showpiece” of the new museum’s 3,600 square foot second floor will be the 1st production line “Flying Scot—FS #4” sailboat built in 1957 in Garrett County by the Douglass Boat Company. The “Flying Scot” will be surrounded by an art gallery focusing on the history of Deep Creek Lake from its inception in 1923 to the present. The society plans to display enlarged photos, paintings and many other types of Deep Creek memorabilia in this gallery. Also on the second floor will be a “state-of-the art” community/media room to be used for lectures, PowerPoint programs, films and many other activities associated with the history of the region.

The new museum will be placed

on the north side of Liberty Street on lots now owned by the Community Action Committee and the First United Bank and Trust. Both organizations have most generously granted the GCHS “99 year” leases to these properties at an annual rent of \$1. Architectural elements featured on the façade of the building have been taken from photos of earlier Oakland buildings such as the first fire hall, the 1920s Lawton’s Garage, the 1890s Martin’s Livery Stable and A.D. Naylor’s first blacksmith shop. Architect for this new building is Robert Pernell of Deep Creek Lake and the local contractor is Gnegy Construction. It is hoped that construction will begin as soon as “Mother Nature” gives up her unusual winter hold on this area.



Architect rendering of interior of first floor, showing the reception desk and the view of the Oakland train station across the street.



# *A Most Wonderful Gift To History And Education In Garrett County*



**Howard and Audrey Naylor.**

As the cover story of this quarterly journal of the GCHS explains, our Historical Society and the Garrett County Museum have received from the Naylor Family Trust major funding to build a new Garrett County Museum of Transportation on Liberty Street in Oakland. As Don Sincell so eloquently put it in a previous editorial in *The Republican* Newspaper, "Howard and Audrey Naylor clearly understood that learning and education are among the primary keys to success of an individual, a community and society in general. They understood the great value in preserving history for both the enlightenment and enjoyment of present and future generations." The

GCHS is extremely appreciative of the generosity of the Naylor Family Trust and their commitment to the new museum project.

Howard Naylor, brother of local retired businessmen Art and Allen Naylor, was born in Oakland at the end of World War I. While a student at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon he met and married the "love of his life" Audrey Holden of New York—a marriage that lasted 67 years. After graduation Howard and Audrey returned to his hometown of Oakland where they raised five children (Lonnie, Gail, Michael, Beth and Bart). Howard taught one year at the Oakland High School but later en-



**The Howard Naylor Family: Michael, Lonnie, Bart, Howard, Audrey, Gail, and Beth Naylor.**

tered the Naylor family business where he added Rolyan's Furniture Store to the other family concerns. In 1961 Howard, Audrey and family moved to Idaho. Though Idaho became their permanent home, they made many trips back to their beloved Garrett County. Both Audrey and Howard passed away in 2006 in Idaho, with memorial services held for both in Idaho and in Oakland.

Howard and Audrey shared a great love for this area and provided a family philanthropic trust, administered by sons Lonnie and Bart, to promote educational opportunities for residents of the Appalachian region of his birth. At heart both Audrey and Howard were educators, as well as entrepreneurs. They both were teachers in the Boise, Idaho, area for 30 years.

Audrey held a master's degree in education and even after retiring from full-time work continued in substitute

teaching until age 85—particularly with special needs children. Howard became an active businessman in both Garrett County and in Idaho. He was a lifelong athlete, a pilot, and a ski enthusiast. He was very instrumental in bringing skiing to Garrett County and created Garrett County and Maryland's first ski slope on Hoop Pole Ridge between Oakland and Deep Creek Lake in 1946-47. The top pole from the original rope tow is still standing and can be seen about 100 feet from US 219 N near the top of the hill just before descending to Sand Flat Road intersection.

The editor of the *Glades Star* encourages you to read much more of the interesting story of Howard and Audrey which can be found on the following website which was created by Audrey and enhanced and maintained by her daughter, Beth: <http://howarddn.globat.com/>.

# *The Wonderful Gift Of "Flying Scot" #4*



**Flying Scott #4, Rhonda and Clark Ashby, Crab Orchard Lake in 1979.**

This past December the Garrett County Historical Society received a most wonderful gift with the arrival at the Flying Scot Boat Company in Deer Park of the first production line sailboat of Sandy Douglass' late 1950s invention, the "Flying Scot." The society wishes to sincerely thank Diane Thayer and Don Griffin of the local Yacht Club for all of their efforts in locating this artifact and its current owners. A very special "thank

you" also to Professor Bill Vogler of SIU for delivering FS#4 to Deer Park from its home of the last 42 years near Chicago. Bill arrived with our "prize catch" just barely in advance of the first of our many blasts of winter this season.

The "Flying Scot" FS#4 was graciously donated as a centerpiece artifact for the new Deep Creek Gallery which will be created for the main display area on the second floor of the historical society's new Museum of Transportation due to be built this year. The second owners and donors of FS#4 are Carbondale, Illinois, residents W. Clark and Rhoda Ashby, who owned and obviously enjoyed the "Rho

Boat" over a period of 42 years (see following photos and story by Clark Ashby). It was truly a pleasure to work with the Ashbys and their friends toward the generous donation of this major Garrett County artifact.

FS#4 is currently on site at the Flying Scot Boat Company and is being made "display ready" by the generous efforts of company owners Harry and Karen Carpenter and their employees.



# *Riding the Rail on Rho Boat*

*by Clark Ashby*



**The Rho Boat, Rhonda and Clark Ashby, Crab Orchard Lake.**

Rhoda in later years had great fun riding the rail on our Flying Scot, but not when designer and builder Sandy Douglass took us for a sail in 1967 on Crab Orchard Lake near Carbondale, Illinois. A new boat he brought had an inclinometer that fascinated and scared her as the angle of heel increased. Soon we bought FS 4—that “had to have one”—and still did not, when we regretfully watched Bill Vogler drive off with it last December. Bill delivered it to Oakland, Maryland where Flying Scots have for years been built and sailed on Deep Creek Lake. FS #4 will be the centerpiece of a new transportation museum being

built in Oakland. We sent along the original winches and mounting blocks to replace the Harken goodies I had put on. Sandy noted our boat was the 2nd Scot he built and the first one picked up by the owners, Lois and Jack Brown, who lived in Benton.

Sandy Douglass designed and built the Thistle, the Highlander, and the Flying Scot and was our first sailboat builder to use fiberglass. Jack had seen an ad for the new Flying Scot, phoned Sandy, “Will the boom miss my head?” and when Sandy said yes, “I’ll take it.” When they did Sandy took them out on Lake Erie for a rough ride on a windy day,

and safely back on shore revealed the flotation still needed to be installed. He soon came out to Crab Orchard Lake for the flotation and the first of many pleasant visits, bringing new boats sometimes double-decked on the trailer. The Browns sailed #4 for several years until selling it and buying FS 419 to build Fleet 30 on Crab Orchard Lake.

We bought #4 in 1967 and had it for 42 years with a rail in the water many times but no capsizes. Rhoda and I raced it regularly on Crab Orchard and at regattas on Kentucky Lake, Lake Michigan, at Jackson, MS, Memphis, TN and elsewhere, taking our three girls who remember times of stress, and times of having fun. Perhaps I raised my voice on occasion. What is there about a spinaker that won't pass up a chance to cause trouble?

We sailed #4 at several Scot District Regattas and one National and at the 25th and 30th Anniversary

Regattas hosted by Fleet #1 on Cowan Lake near Cincinnati, Ohio. Our hopefully respectable but not leading finishes were not to be blamed on #4. We twice came close to winning the local Egyptian Cup with Fleet 30 at Crab Orchard and later with Fleet 83 at Carlyle Lake that has hosted it after we lost our lease at Crab Orchard and organized sailing collapsed.

At Crab Orchard Lake the number of Scots slowly and then rapidly multiplied to be the largest fleet in our heydays of sailing (20 boats in 1972) and at Carlyle (over 40 boats in the early 2000s). Scot sailors at Carlyle welcome visitors, buy new boats (Bill Vogler three times), and used boats are often good bargains. We greatly miss our sailing days, regretted having to part with a real "friend," and hope still to be able to get on the water those days when the sun and wind smile on sailors. Regrettably there is now no Scot sailing on Crab Orchard Lake.

## *Sandy Douglass and the History of the Flying Scot*

*by Harry and Karen Carpenter*

In 1956, after having nearly forty years of sailboat building experience, Gordon K. (Sandy) Douglass began to work on a new project from his home in Mentor, Ohio. He wanted a new type of boat built out of a new material called fiberglass. His past successes with molded plywood in his Thistle and Highlander designs were now

firmly behind him with his departure from Douglass & McLeod, builders of these two previous designs. Sandy wanted this new design to be a boat that a family could enjoy—roomy, comfortable and stable.

By fall he launched the wood prototype of this new design, the Flying Scot, for testing. The boat performed



better than he had hoped and made him certain that he should get the boat into production. Being a man with a small ego, Sandy named the new company the Gordon Douglass Boat Co., Inc. and after some early production problems, he managed to complete his first boat in the spring of 1957 and found it to be an immediate success with many more orders. In June 1957, Eric Ammann joined the company and in short order, became Sandy's right hand man in production and marketing the Flying Scot.

A combination of events (not the least of which saw the State of Ohio condemning Sandy's new house) led Sandy to move the Gordon Douglass Boat Co., Inc., from Mentor, Ohio, to Oakland, Maryland in August 1958. The company took up residence at Third and Omar in an empty car dealership. From this location, Sandy and Eric built the Flying Scot into a strong national one-design class. They spent as much time as possible with each customer and strived to add "the personal touch" to the business

delivering hundreds of boats coast to coast. A major accomplishment included the adoption of the Flying Scot as the official club boat for the Detroit River Yachting Association and the Gulf Yachting Association. This gained valuable exposure to hundreds of members at more than fifty clubs.

In 1971, Sandy decided to retire and sold the business to Eric Ammann. After a brief partnership, Eric bought out all of the shares and brought his wife, Mary, into the business. Together they continued to build on the tradition of quality and personal contact. They also began to focus on an ever-increasing part of the business-replacement parts.

With more than 2500 Flying Scots having been built by 1975, there was an increased demand for replacement parts. Eric and Mary worked to build on this by setting up a daily pick-up by UPS and allowing any Flying Scot owner to be on an open 30 day account. "The bill is in the package, send us a check when you get it,"



became a common phrase in dealing with Scot owners. Eric and Mary also worked hard to get most orders out within 24 hours. Flying Scot owners responded to this preferred treatment and rewarded the company with an ever increasing demand for replacement parts and almost no bad debts.

Eric and Mary also recognized a need to focus more on individuals who did not know how to sail as the best source for new customers. They rented a property on the Turkey Neck section of Deep Creek Lake called Hickory Ridge in the summer of 1975. They also employed a college student, Harry Carpenter, to manage the rental and sailing school. Things were slow at first and Harry worked more at the factory in Deer Park than at Hickory Ridge for the first two years. While not showing a great profit on paper, Hickory Ridge became an important aspect of Gordon Douglass Boat Co., Inc. It allowed individuals who did not own property on Deep Creek Lake access through the mooring rentals. It provided a place where Eric and Mary could send new owners and prospective owners to learn about sailing the Flying Scot. Finally, it brought a stream of new prospective customers through the rental operation.

In June of 1978, Eric and Mary employed Harry Carpenter on a full time basis to assist in the operation of the business. Harry began working in the shop rotating through most of the different production operations. He also helped Eric and Mary with the office tasks. Harry began

to campaign his own Flying Scot at major Flying Scot regattas including the North American Championship and the Midwinter Championship. Harry met his wife Karen at one of these regattas in 1979 and they were married in April 1981. Karen was a registered operating room nurse living in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. She became Harry's regular crew and together they have won many Flying Scot events including the North American Championship in 1988.

Eric and Mary first discussed retirement with Harry and Karen in 1985. Harry and Karen expressed an interest in working toward eventual company ownership. Harry became the company vice-president and began to acquire stock in Gordon Douglass Boat Co., Inc. Karen began working part time to learn as much as possible from Mary.

The operation of the business continued in the same tradition with everyone continuously working to make the Flying Scot an industry leader in quality and service. When new resins or fiberglass materials were introduced, Eric and Harry would consider their value to the production of the Flying Scot and many have been incorporated over the years so that the construction materials are state of the art while the design remains unchanged.

In October 1991, Eric and Mary Ammann retired after more than thirty years of building the Flying Scot. Harry and Karen Carpenter bought all of the assets of the Gordon Douglass Boat Co., Inc., and formed a

new company, Flying Scot, Inc. While the retirement of Eric and Mary Ammann and the dissolution of Gordon Douglass Boat Co., Inc., was a notable landmark in the history of the Flying Scot, it was not a turning point. Harry and Karen spent too much time with Eric and Mary to contemplate radical changes to the business practice. The name Flying Scot, Inc., was new, but the business philosophy and operation continued in the same tradition established over the previous 34 years. Flying Scot, Inc., continues to strive toward building the best boat possible and providing prompt, personal service. The new company employed Eric and Mary on a part-time consulting basis so that their years of experience are still a large benefit to the new company.

Dee Burns came to the company in May of 1994. She didn't have any

sailing experience, but her previous office experience and gentle manner with customers soon made her a valuable asset to the operation. She soon became the office manager and is heavily involved in assisting Harry and Karen with sales and customer service.

Today the Flying Scot is a leading one-design class in the United States. While many small boat builders have folded their tents, Flying Scot, Inc., has continued to grow. The ever increasing number of Flying Scots has increased the demand for parts and as the boats age, repair and refurbishing is becoming a larger part of the business. While remaining open to new projects and new opportunities we have always believed firmly that "slow and steady wins the race."

This philosophy has certainly proven successful over nearly 50 years of continuous production.

## *GCHS Needs the Help of Its Members and Friends*

The new transportation museum of the GCHS will have on its second floor a handicapped accessible media/multi-purpose room suitable for PowerPoint programs, films, history lectures and social functions. This room will need about 48 folding chairs and 6 - 8 folding tables.

We are asking our members and friends to consider buying these items as memorials, honoraries, etc. Through a special arrange-

ment with Mark IV on Alder Street in Oakland, we will be able to purchase these items locally.

Price per quality padded folding chair is \$32.50. Price per sturdy folding table is \$75.00. These items can be purchased through the museum office (301-334-3226).

Please help us furnish this room. The Naylor Technology Fund has already supplied the needed electronic and technical equipment for this very special community room.



# *The Leo J. Beachy Photographic Archive*

*by Christopher Schwer*



Born in 1874 Leo Beachy was a schoolteacher, who, at the age of thirty-one, turned to photography to express his love of the environment and his community. With dogged persistence he photographed the hillsides of western Maryland. Fighting through a crippling illness Beachy was compelled to reflect what he saw in the everyday life of his community. Upon his death in 1927 tens of thousands of his glass plate negatives were destroyed. The only ones known to remain locally are the 2787 plates contained in the Maxine Broadwater collection.

Through a generous gift of Max-

ine Broadwater and the Howard and Audrey Naylor Trust a digital archive of the photographic work by Leo J. Beachy is under construction. The archive will soon be available to all through an online gallery housed at the Garrett County Historical Society website. The archive will contain a copy of each and every Beachy glass plate negative that survives locally today. The archive will be interactive with the capability of recording viewer comments about individual pictures. It is the hope of the historical society that the community will participate in the identification of people and places in these pictures. This archive will





essentially become a searchable digital database of artistic and historic images.

Over the thirty years since the discovery these glass plate negatives only a few hundred of the almost twenty-eight hundred pictures have ever been printed. This is the first time that the entire collection will be viewable in any form. These pictures taken between 1905 and 1927 are an expressive and eloquent window into lives of Garrett County's past and represent the life's work of Leo J. Beachy



The photographs in the collection range from individual studio portraits to beautiful and expansive landscapes. There are many class portraits from local one-room schools and large group portraits at family gatherings. There are pictures of local towns no longer in existence and patriotic July 4th celebrations. Careful study of these photographs allows one to trace an individual from childhood to adulthood and into marriage or military service. This collection will allow the entire community to share the visual, artistic and cultural heritage of Garrett County.





Over the past nine months I have been busy scanning into digital form all of the surviving Leo J. Beachy glass plate negatives. The scanning process involves the careful cleaning of nearly one hundred years of dust and dirt from the glass surface of the negatives. The plates are then placed on the scanner and converted to digital images via the computer. The images are then adjusted for tone and contrast as well as retouched to remove as many imperfections from the chemical surface of the plates as possible.

Through the process of handling

these glass plates it has been my great honor and privilege to experience first hand the poignant beauty of Leo Beachy's work. It is with great excitement that I look forward to the publication of these photographs through the Leo J. Beachy Photographic Archive and the enrichment of our community through their historic preservation.

*Bittinger resident Christopher Schwer is a photographer and professional photographic printer specializing in the care and printing of vintage photographic materials.*

## Memorials

### **Lewis Jones**

Thomas S. Jones

### **Sally Hoffman Durrant**

Bob and Leanna Boal

### **Mary Sanders**

Kenneth Legge Hardesty

### **Ferne Belmonte**

Jacquelyn Shirer

John and Jean Grant

### **Sara M. "Peggy" Casteel Kyle**

Ray and Kay Lambert

### **Anderson B. Cosby**

Bob and Leanna Boal

## Donations

Oakland/Mtn. Lake Park

Lions Club

Paul W. Hoyer

T. Grant Callery

Traci Royce

Offutt and Joan Johnson

Ihor and Sandra Zakaluzny

Wayne and Judy Wilt

## Honorariums

### **Mary V. Jones**

Thomas S. Jones

### **Bob and Leonna Boal**

Martha V. DeBerry

## *Donation for renovation of Victorian Bedroom*

Daniel Offutt



# *The Bridges of Garrett County*

*by Paul Durham*



**The Glendale Road Bridge under construction.**

Garrett County is often known for its historic bridges. The picture post card image of the Casselman Bridge on the old National Road has become an icon and a landmark for the northern county. We are fortunate to see it preserved as a state park site along with its proximity to the Spruce Forest Artisan Village.

Bridges can speed up our travels and, at times, slow us down to a more relaxing pace. A somewhat slower way of enjoying life is part of the attraction and charm of our mountain top community. Those new to the Deep Creek Lake area may not know it, but

at one time both locals and visitors alike were actually *required* to slow down. It all depended on the route you chose to drive from one end of the lake to the other.

When the lake was constructed in the 1920s, travel by car was a luxury that not everyone had the opportunity to enjoy. To get to this area, most visitors arrived by steam train at the B&O station in Oakland, our original gateway to the world. They utilized local transportation along such roads as the winding gravel "State Road" (now Route 219) to the north. The damming of Deep Creek in the 1920s



The "State Road" Bridge—note the old car at the end of the bridge.

blocked some local roads and new bridges were required to keep some of them open. Several long steel arch truss bridges were needed to span the lake.

Construction on these new bridges was completed before the lake was flooded. Three steel structures were eventually built—along the State Road crossing the center of the lake, the Glendale (Road) Bridge at "Cat Rocks," and finally a much later and smaller bridge over Meadow Mountain Run near the state park.

Back then, the typical Ford or Chevrolet required less roadway than today's cars. The new bridges incorporated lightweight see-through steel grid bridge decking and lanes that were, at the time, thought to be wide enough for cars to pass. The design

allowed motorists to pass each other freely across the bridges as they drove to and around the lake.

The old State Road bridge had wider lanes than did the Glendale Bridge and, except for the occasional big load, traffic usually flowed relatively freely north and south. However, the Glendale Road bridge was designed with a much narrower deck and it often had short backups during the summer months. As cars became bigger and faster, courtesy and patience was required after motorists learned that the Glendale Bridge could now only accommodate one-way traffic. New rules of the road developed, i.e., whoever dared to start across the bridge first ruled the road. Being courteous and waiting did have its benefits, best of all the chance to

enjoy the sweeping views across the lake south to Turkey Neck or north to Marsh Mountain.

It was customary to wave at or politely greet the waiting car as you passed them at the other end and they then took their turn to cross the bridge. Still, confrontations occasionally occurred when drivers did not know or understand the rule. Many a visitor's boat or camping trailer needed to be backed from the Glendale Bridge after having started partway across. My mother once told a story of being half-way across the Glendale Bridge one summer day, towing a camping trailer. The stubbornness of the opposing driver required her to back both their car and trailer to the State Park Road intersection.

As the Glendale Bridge aged, it developed its infamous but endearing "kablam, rumble, rumble, rumble" sound effects as cars moved across it, a sound that could be heard fairly far away late at night. Especially if one were camping at the state park. Time and the road salt falling from cars after the "kablam" took its toll on the bridge. I remember an early summer morning patrol on the lake where I discovered that a steel stringer had rusted loose from the bottom of the bridge and was dangling quite dangerously into the face of passing boaters. Luckily, no one hit it. As I pried it loose it quickly fell to the lake bottom.



**The Glendale Road Bridge prior to demolition.**

Both bridges grew old gracefully and were eventually replaced with today's structures. The State Highway Administration replaced the State Road/Route 219 bridge in 1986. The site of its southern abutment can still be seen at the DNR fishing area adjacent to the new bridge. The Glendale Bridge stubbornly held on for another 11 years, eventually succumbing to deterioration and neglect in 1997.

As a fond and fitting farewell to the slower life, a handful of locals held an impromptu celebration and dance on the old Glendale Bridge just before its demolition. A final memorial to times gone by and to the many memories made waiting for others to cross.

*Based in Oakland, Maryland, Paul Durham is a writer and photographer whose work reflects a lifetime love affair with parks and heritage sites. Paul's career includes 27 years as a park ranger and conservation professional. His work can be seen online at his website at [www.heritageresourcephoto.com](http://www.heritageresourcephoto.com)*



# Edison, Ford and Firestone Travel Through Western Maryland in the Summer of 1921

by Francis Champ Zumbrun

*Editor's Note: This the second in a series of articles chronicling the camping trip of Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, and Harvey Firestone in western Maryland in 1921. The photos are from Norman Braner's book, There to Breathe the Beauty. It is available to view at the Ruth Enlow Library, Oakland.*

*"It often seemed to me that we were a luxuriously equipped expedition going forth to seek discomfort—dust, rough roads, heat, cold, irregular hours, accidents. But discomfort, after all, is what the camper-out is unconsciously seeking—we react against our complex civilization and long to get back for a time to first principles."*

—John Burroughs

It was true the Vagabonds were not exactly roughing it, but it was also true these captains of industry did go without some of comforts that they were accustomed to at home. Anyone finding them camping at Muddy Creek Falls in the summer of 1921 would have found the Vagabonds carrying much more camping gear than when they first began camping together in 1915.

Their entourage, consisting of about 40 people, was much larger as this was the first time their wives traveled and camped with them. In addition to family members, six support staff traveled with them to drive trucks, cook, and set up and break down their camping gear.

Edison was probably the unhappiest of the group because their camping equipment was becoming more elaborate and cumbersome. Edison took great joy in telling stories about his adventures with the Vagabonds, his close encounters with nature, and toughing it out in the great outdoors each summer.

Now that their wives were camping with them, the Vagabonds were less likely to drive in the back woods along rough, dust-covered roads with little or no traffic, roads that Edison loved exploring.

Interestingly, Edison overlooked the fact that he too brought advanced camping gear, the like never seen before at a campsite, including a battery-powered radio and electric powered light bulbs.

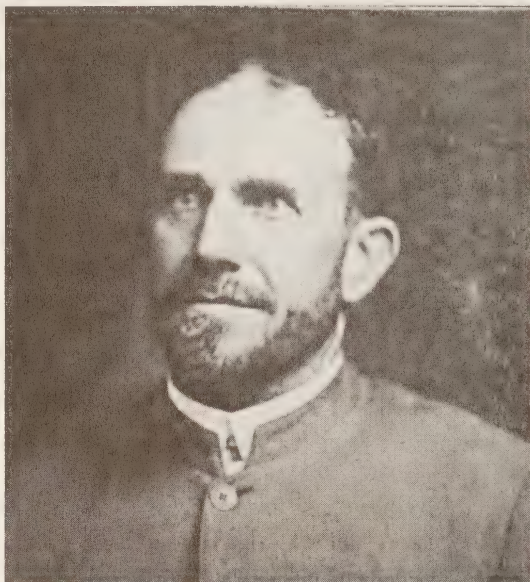
Joseph Hinebaugh, with sev-

eral other boys, who the Vagabonds bumped from their Muddy Creek Falls camping spot (discussed in a previous article), visited the famous men at their campsite and were amazed to see light bulbs strung and hanging all around the camp connected to and powered by an automobile battery.

The Vagabonds treated their youthful visitors to sweets each time they visited their camp. While eating their candy, they must have been impressed with the Vagabonds' high-end camping gear: the Lincoln refrigerated kitchen truck carrying state-of-art cooking gear including a portable gasoline cooking stove, although the Vagabonds favored their meals cooked on a grill over a wood-fueled campfire, and the large, twenty-foot square dining tent, enclosed with mosquito netting.

If the boys peeked into the dining tent they would have seen a large circular dining table about nine feet in diameter, and on top, a large lazy-Susan. This table could seat twenty people around it. The lazySusan made it easy to distribute the servings of food and condiments around the table.

The boys would have also noticed the army styled canvas sleeping tents, each about 10-feet square in size with



Abraham "Link" Sines.

mosquito netting sewn into the flaps. Each family had their own tent, identified with a name-placard placed at the entrance.

The youth would have also been impressed with the many wooden, striped canvas-backed chairs making a ring around the campfire pit. The Vagabonds designed the kitchen table and chairs to fold for easy storage in the equipment and camping supply truck.

Abraham "Link" Sines, well-known Garrett County forest warden, and his brother Henry visited the Muddy Creek Falls campsite and shared stories with the Vagabonds about the natural and cultural history of the area, a role John Burroughs played on past camping trips, until his death earlier that year.

To fill in for the great naturalist



**Sines with tractor.**

Burroughs' must have been rather intimidating for the Sines brothers. Burroughs looked at nature as a treasure, full of "acres of diamonds," rich in wonder and awe, observations that he convincingly wrote about in his many inspirational nature books. Burroughs wrote how the natural world revealed its magic and mystery to anyone who had the eyes to see and the ears to hear.

Link Sines, a master woodsman himself, met Burroughs in 1918 when the Vagabonds passed through Garrett County. Link later recalled, "Ford loved anything mechanical. He was constantly looking for items to add to his collection in Detroit. Firestone liked to fish. Edison was either reading a book or tinkering with his Packard. Burroughs knew more about trees and plants than anyone I ever met."

However, the Sines brothers did not have to worry about formality when they were with the Vagabonds. Ford, Firestone, and Edison encour-

aged the Sines brothers and others who visited their campsite to relax. Edison would say: "There are no misters in this camp. Just call us by our first names...I'm Tom to you." Visitors remembered that the atmosphere around the Muddy Creek Falls camp was casual, with friendly conversation, and a place where laughter prevailed.

At night, everyone looked forward to sitting around the campfire, telling stories and jokes. Edison was the master of timing the punch line when telling a joke, causing everyone to burst out in laughter.

Edison was hard-of-hearing, so when it came Ford's time to tell a joke, he would bring a piece of paper out from his pocket that his secretary had typed earlier. Ford would open up the paper and pass it on to Edison to read aloud, and after laughter rang out, Edison would promptly pass the paper back to Ford, who immediately ripped it up to avoid telling the same joke twice.



Answer to question: The Vagabonds came first, camping at Muddy Creek in 1921. Deep Creek Lake did not exist then. In 1925, the Pennsylvania Electric Company completed the construction of the hydro-electric dam, affecting Deep Creek, a tributary of the Youghiogheny River, the lake not filling to capacity until 1929.

Henry Ford commenting at the Muddy Creek Falls campsite to reporters inquiring about the Detroit Toledo Ironton Railroad, purchased by Ford in 1920, explaining why he reduced railroad freight rates, boosted wages of workmen, and shutdown railroad operations on Sunday:

"I want to give the employees a Sunday [off] when everybody else has it. No man can work for more than six days a week and keep it up. We have an eight hour day and a six-day week...and as a result, the men are more careful and more interested [at work]."

Question to consider (answer at the end of the article): Besides the Vagabonds, what other famous people thought western Maryland was a premier place to vacation?

Several interesting stories survive that involve Henry Ford's encounters with Garrett County citizens concerning old sawmill steam boilers he saw during the week he camped at Muddy Creek Falls.



**Carl Lohr.**

Carl Lohr, well remembered as the first resident warden at Potomac State Forest, experienced a chance encounter with the Vagabonds while he was attempting to repair a broken axle on his father's Model T Ford. On July 27, while traveling to their Muddy Creek Falls campsite, the Vagabonds veered off from Oakland to Deer Park where they ate a late lunch. Here, Henry Ford spotted an old sawmill steam boiler.

For a closer look, they drove up a winding narrow road that led to Lohr's house. Two men got out of the car. A man with a straw hat took out



**Passenger cars negotiate the muddy road while leaving Oakland, Maryland, camp at Swallow Falls, July 31.**

a writing pad and began immediately drawing a sketch of the boiler.

Lohr walked up to the men and asked them who they were and what they were doing. The man in the straw hat identified himself as Henry Ford; the older person identified himself as Thomas Edison. Ford told Lohr: "I wanted to look at the boiler because I have never seen anything like it before and especially because it was something old. I have found there is much more to be learned from an old thing than from a new one. You see, an old thing has been tried and has found to be of service. A new thing is still an experiment and you can't learn as much from it."

Lohr, extremely frustrated from trying for a week to repair without success his father's Model T Ford, said to Ford: "Since you made this car over here that runs backward instead of forward...perhaps you could tell me about it."

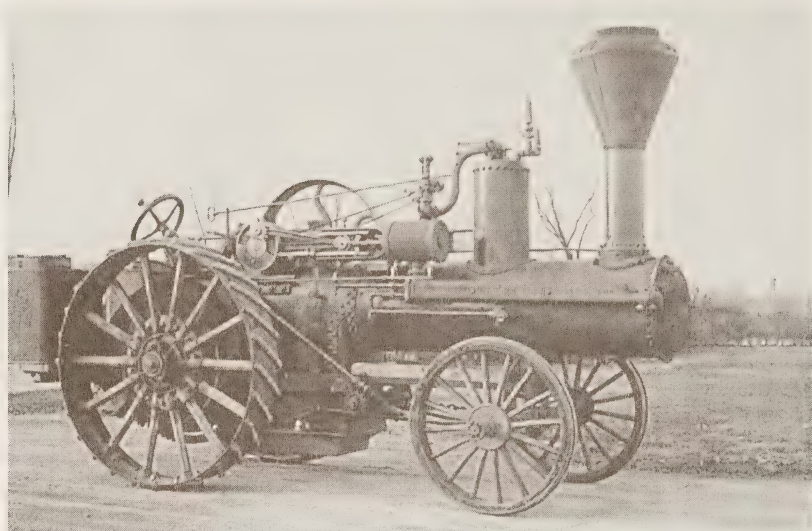
Lohr explained to Ford that he had replaced the right rear axle that

connected to the differential assembly after he nearly wrecked his father's car due to a brake failure; and that everytime Lohr pushed in the low gear and high gear clutch, the rear wheels turned backward instead of forward, and when he pushed in the reverse wheel clutch, the wheels spun forward instead of backward.

Ford responded: "Son, you have installed the 'ring gear' on the wrong side of the pinion gear which causes the wheel to go backward instead of forward when you push in the low gear clutch pedal."

Lohr, who in later years moved to LaVale, would tell this story and conclude it this way: "...and so I was able to fix the car properly, and I became a factory trained mechanic overnight from this bit of expert advice from Henry Ford."

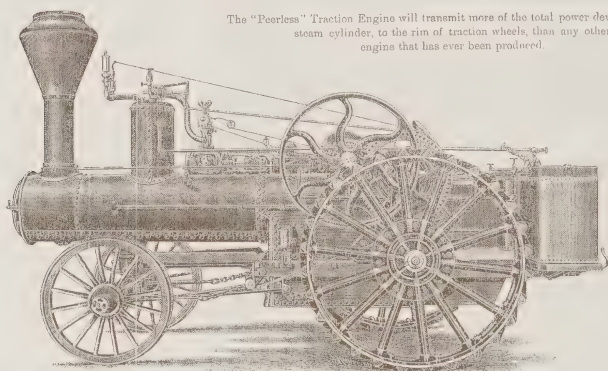
In another account, apparently just before or after his encounter with Carl Lohr, Ford's Lincoln got stuck in the mud. Horses from a nearby farm had to pull him out. A young boy, not



Steam engine at Ford Museum.

#### ECONOMICAL AND EFFICIENT

The "Peerless" Traction Engine will transmit more of the total power developed in the steam cylinder, to the rim of traction wheels, than any other engine that has ever been produced.



Class Q (to H. P.) "Peerless" Wood or Coal-Burning Traction Engine—Left-Hand View

This engine has cylinder 7-inch bore, 9-inch stroke. Fly wheel is 44 inches in diameter with 61-inch face. Revolutions, 240. Diameter of rear wheels, 60 inches. Width of tire on rear wheels, 12 inches. Diameter of front wheels, 40 inches. Width of tire on front wheels, 5 inches. Greatest width of engine, 6 feet 6 inches.

16

#### Geiser Model Q engine.

knowing it was Ford, said: "Mister, you have the wrong kind of car. My father drives a Ford and it never gets stuck in the mud."

Ford was so delighted with the boy's comment that he took the name

and address of his father, and soon thereafter, a brand new Ford was delivered to the boy's house.

The historical accounts do not make it clear if it was same boiler he saw at Deer Park when he talked



GEISER TRACTION ENGINE

8

A ten-horsepower steam traction engine made by the Geiser Manufacturing Company of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, 1897.

The Geiser "Peerless" Model "Q" is a side-crank piston-valve engine featuring a sliding rack reversing gear which differs from the conventional link-motion type. Widely advertised was the "Peerless" engine's coil-spring suspension which allowed it to traverse the roughest of roads.

The Geiser Company, originally established in 1859 by Daniel Geiser, J. F. Oller and B. E. Price, was an important early manufacturer of threshing machinery. The "Peerless" traction engine which was developed and patented by Frank F. Landis was first manufactured in 1883. In 1912 the company was acquired by the Emerson-Brantingham Implement Company of Rockford, Illinois which continued to produce "Peerless" engines in Waynesboro until 1924. Producing over 18,000 portable and traction engines, Geiser ranked second among the manufacturers of agricultural steam engines.

Indicated Horsepower: 10 h.p.

Engine Speed: 240 r.p.m.

Bore and Stroke: 7 in. x 9 in.

Accession No. 00.3.12498

ART: Photo Negative No. B79259 --  
"Peerless Steam Plowing Outfit."  
No Caption.

Exhibit Area A-21

Curator files

From the collections of The Henry Ford


### Specs for Model Q steam engine.

to Carl Lohr. But it is known that he bought two sawmill boilers from Newton Reams, who lived near Sang Run Road. The tale behind this business transaction between Ford and Reams reveals good old-fashioned Garrett County ingenuity.

Reams learned of Ford's interest in

his boiler and went to visit Ford at his campsite. The transaction went something like this: Reams asked Ford, "You're not joking, you really want to buy my boiler?" Ford responded that it was true.

"O.K., I'll sell it to you for 100 dollars," replied Reams.



*Live On Stage!*

June 7 - 18

**Camping  
With Henry & Tom**

*by Mark St. Germain*

July 5 - 22

#### Camping With Henry and Tom Play.

Ford immediately gave Reams two fifty dollar bills. As Ford inspected the engine, he explained to Reams how he could get it to run more efficiently. As he looked closer, he noticed a part was missing. Ford asked Reams if he could find a part to replace the missing one.

Reams told Ford that he probably could get one from a nearby sawmill. The sawmill operator later told Reams he wouldn't sell him the part, but he would sell the whole boiler to him for 75 dollars.

Reams soon thereafter contacted Ford and told him he had to buy the whole boiler if he wanted the part. Ford asked Reams: "How much?" Reams inflated the price to 150 dollars. Ford immediately gave Reams three 50 dollar bills. Reams took the two boilers to Oakland and shipped

them by train to Dearborn, Michigan. Today, both saw mill steam boilers are stored at the Henry Ford Museum in Michigan.

Answer to question: There are many celebrities who believe western Maryland is a great place to vacation including Albert Einstein, world famous scientist who secretly vacationed at Deep Creek Lake for two weeks in September 1946. He later said that this vacation was "one of the most restful and zestful vacations,... that "here you can get nearer to God." Also, in the 1940s and 1950s, Dr. Benjamin Spock, the baby doctor, and his friend and companion Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed the first safe polio vaccine, vacationed at Deep Creek Lake in western Maryland.

*"The common sense thing to do is to take the coal out of the mines and take*

*all the by-products- light oils, coke, tar, benzyl, gas, etc.. We do that in Detroit. We use 3,000 tons of coal a day and we have enough valuable by-products left over after using everything we need in our plants to sell coke to the city of Detroit and put gas in the city gas mains."*

—Henry Ford  
at Muddy Creek Falls, 1921

Question to consider (the answer is at the end of the article): What off-Broadway play production, seen at the Cumberland Theater in June 2006, celebrates the Vagabonds' 1921 camping trip in western Maryland?

On the afternoon of July 28, Harvey Firestone went horseback riding with family members. The horses they rode were borrowed from the party of Ralph Emerson Cross, who was surprised to discover the famous men camping at Muddy Creek Falls while horseback riding with his party. Upon his return, Firestone generously paid Emerson with several ten and twenty dollar bills. Emerson's party was extremely happy with this handsome payment, as they had paid only \$1.25 to rent each horse from an Oakland stable.

When they returned to Oakland, Ralph Emerson Cross and his friends spread the news around the community that the celebrated men were camping nearby at Muddy Creek Falls. Soon, crowds of people came to see the Vagabonds at their campsite.

Newspaper reporters covered the Vagabonds camping adventures for a national audience anxious to read about the outdoor exploits of these well-known men. Possibly energized

by Muddy Creek Falls, Edison was very talkative, especially to reporters, and some of his quotes are covered in this series of articles. Being astute business men, the Vagabonds knew the value of good public relations.

One writer said it best: "With squads of news writers and platoons of cameramen to report and film the posed nature studies of the four eminent campers, these well equipped excursions...were as private and secluded as a Hollywood opening, and Ford appreciated the publicity."

On July 29, the Vagabonds relaxed around the camp, exploring and studying nature, resting, and relaxing in the company of their friends, simply appreciating and enjoying the resplendent riches of nature at Muddy Creek Falls.

Ford, proud of his skills with an axe, could be depended on to provide firewood for the evening campfire. An avid bird-watcher, Ford often went for nature walks with his binoculars to see what he could discover. Edison would sometimes walk with Ford to study the flow of a stream nearby, and together, they considered its potential for generating electricity.

Edison liked to relax around camp by reading newspapers and books. He was often found reading in the front seat of one of the touring cars. At other times he might be seen lying on the ground taking a nap under the shade of a tree. For exercise, Edison often strolled around the camp with a hammer, pounding on rocks to see what minerals were inside; at other times, he could be found examining



plants, pondering their chemical make-up, and how they could be converted into something useful for humanity.

Firestone enjoyed visiting nearby towns to study local industries. He liked to take showers in town before returning to camp. In contrast, Ford and Edison took pleasure in bathing in nearby streams, as they did at both Muddy Creek and Licking Creek.

On July 30 they tried to leave their Muddy Creek Falls campsite and travel to their next campsite at Elkins, West Virginia, but heavy rains lasting for hours made the roads muddy and impassable, forcing them to remain at camp for another day. So instead, they celebrated Henry Ford's 58th birthday at Muddy Creek Falls.

With John Burroughs, "the saintly lover of nature," passing away at the age of 83 early in 1921, Edison, at 74 years of age, was now the oldest Vagabond, and Firestone, at 52 years of age, the youngest.

Finally, on July 31, weather conditions improved. The Vagabonds broke camp. With the bridge repaired, the roads muddy, but still drivable, they proceeded toward Elkins, West Virginia.

Arriving late in the day, and because their camping gear had not yet arrived, the Vagabonds stayed overnight in a hotel at Elkins. The next day, on August 1, their camping equipment arrived, so they set up camp along the Cheat River near Elkins. Here, both Ford and Firestone received messages to return home to take care of important business matters.

The next morning, on August 2, they broke camp and headed north to Fairmont, where they arrived around noon. They intended to go on to Wheeling, but heavy rain caused them to take a detour through Morgantown, West Virginia, to Uniontown, Pennsylvania, where they stayed overnight at the Summit Inn along Route 40.

Ford and Edison were in such great humor that like children, they played competitive games at the Summit Inn. One game demonstrated flexibility skills. Edison, at a young age of 74, demonstrated his dexterity by kicking a cigar off the fireplace mantel in the lobby three straight times, while the younger Ford could do it only once.

Another game immediately followed involving a stair-jumping contest in the hotel lobby. Ford won this game, jumping up ten steps in two hops, where it took Edison three hops to accomplish the same. Their child-like natures in their senior years possibly reveal the secret to the incredible creativity of Ford and Edison.

The next morning, on August 3, they departed the Summit Inn and continued their jubilant journey to nearby Uniontown, where they stopped briefly on Morgantown Street. From here they went on to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where Ford, Firestone, and Edison parted ways, ending their most excellent expedition in western Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

The Vagabonds' last annual summer expedition occurred in 1924.

"The trips were great fun," Ford later wrote, "except they began to attract too much attention." The Vagabonds were getting older, and their growing business enterprises made it more difficult to leave for long periods at a time.

The Vagabonds were finding it increasingly difficult to find solitude in the outdoors, as additional family members and friends came along with each passing year, making logistics and travel plans more difficult. Each summer more and more of the public and press visited their camp sites. There was little time for rest, relaxation, and exploration.

The Vagabonds' well-publicized summer adventures caused a sensation and stirred a national movement for motor touring and camping. The thing to do was "to buy a Ford car and then some camping equipment and see America first." They popular-

ized the idea of camping on wheels in far-away places, creating demand for the acquisition of additional public lands for forests and parks where the general public too could camp and enjoy outdoor recreation.

Today, millions of vacationers take their automotive wheels on the road, supporting an enormous outdoor recreational industry that annually contributes billions of dollars to our national economy.

The Vagabonds often looked back at their summer in 1921 camping in the mountains of western Maryland as one of their most memorable camping trips.

*Answer to question: "Camping with Henry and Tom" by Mark St. Germain. The Cumberland Theater presented an excellent production of this play in June 2006, the same year the centennial celebrations occurred for Maryland's state forests and parks.*

## The Spring Style Song



**"RCA All The Way, From  
Microphone to Loudspeaker"**

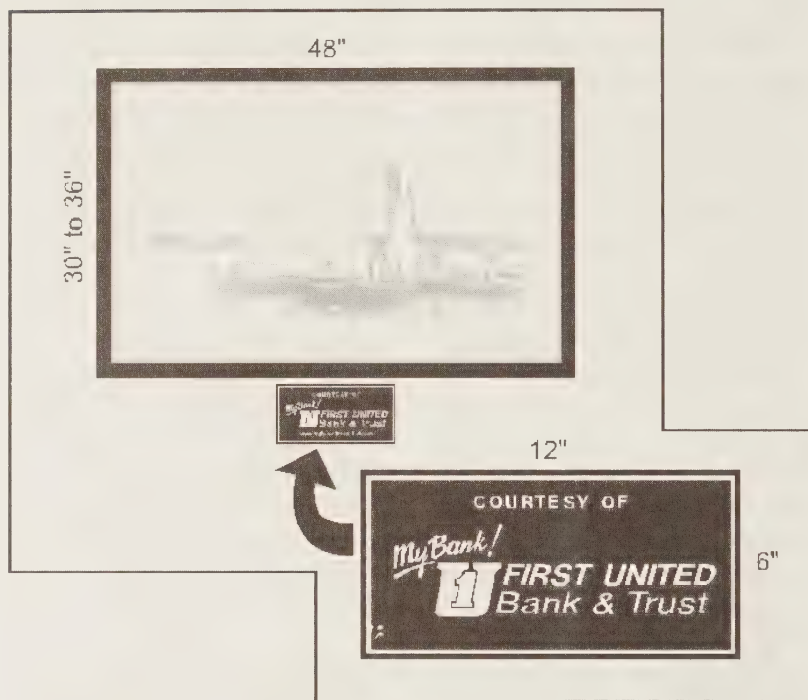
• • • •

**Phone 230J For Demonstration**

• • • •

**Ridder's Radio & Electric Co.**  
OAKLAND, :: MARYLAND

# *A Deep Creek Lake Art And Photo Gallery*



## **"A MAJOR NEED FOR THE NEW MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION"**

Now that the Garrett County Historical Society has acquired "Flying Scot # 4" for the second floor display area for the new museum, the society wishes to ask local and Deep Creek businesses (as well as interested individuals) to consider donating enlarged copies of photos of the lake area from its beginning in 1923 to the present. Plaques/credits (and tax write-offs) will be provided

for all enlarged photos given. The museum has many wonderful photos to choose from in its collection and it is suggested that any of these enlarged photos be donated "in memory of/in honor of" or just by those businesses or individuals interested in helping with this important project. The GCHS estimates that about half of all 7,000 visitors to the museum each year are visiting at Deep Creek Lake.

The historical society intends to work with Domenick Signs of Deer



Park for the creation of these high quality enlarged photographs. It is estimated that from 20 to 26 large size, framed photos could be used for the museum gallery walls and that from 54 to 72 medium size unframed photos could be used for placement on the folding screens to be placed around the gallery perimeter.

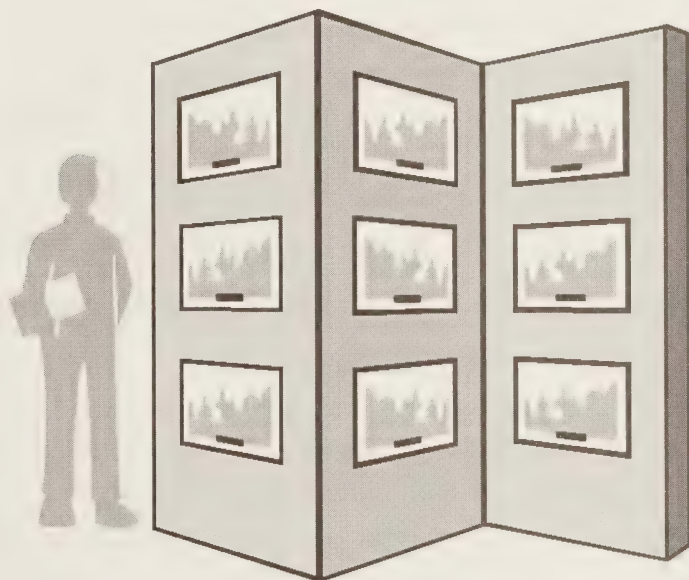
Through a special arrangement with Domenick Signs cost for the enlargements will be as follows:

A. LARGE SIZE, FRAMED PHOTOGRAPHS: a 36" by 48" reproduced print on plastic backing

with painted Cedar Frame \$265, with a memorial /sponsor plaque being an additional \$15

B. MEDIUM SIZE, WHITE-BORDERED PHOTOGRAPHS: an 18" by 24" reproduced print on plastic backing \$95, with memorial/sponsorship on the bottom margin

Any individual or business interested in helping to create the Deep Creek Gallery is asked to call the museum at 301-334-3226 to make arrangements with the curators for the choosing and ordering of the donated photographs.



# *Oakland Accessions*

*November 16, 2009 — February 25, 2010*

- Book — "Mountain Pike" .....*gift of George Ferguson*
- Children's Stamp Set from  
Wonderly Farm .....*gift of Eunice W. Stackhouse*
- Photograph of Gordon Family,  
c. 1905 .....*gift of William G. Savage*
- Picture of Borderside—1865 .....*gift of Carolyn George*
- Evening Sun* 11/11/1918, *Baltimore News* 11/11/1918,  
assorted magazines on Kennedy assassination,  
Newspaper article on Eisenhower's  
death .....*gifts of Dave and Beverly Beard*
- Atlas and Ball pint jars.....*gifts of Alice Eary*
- Grinding stone .....*gift of Wayne Johnson*
- "Coal Company Index" .....*gift of Lewis J. Ort Library*
- Box of index cards on GC Civil War Veterans,  
1913 GC Topography map, Pamphlets on parks and  
forests, 1957 booklet on Grantsville Methodist Church,  
Genealogy information on Hileman and Lawrence F.  
Green .....*gifts of Carol Connaway*
- "Piece a Quilt of Gortner" Book..... *gift of Swan Meadow School*
- Andrew Coleman Friend Genealogy .....*gift of Pat Thompson*
- 20 and 10 gal. crocks, Cabbage cutter,  
Cutting board.....*gifts of Linda Morris*

# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or  
joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only  
one copy of each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550



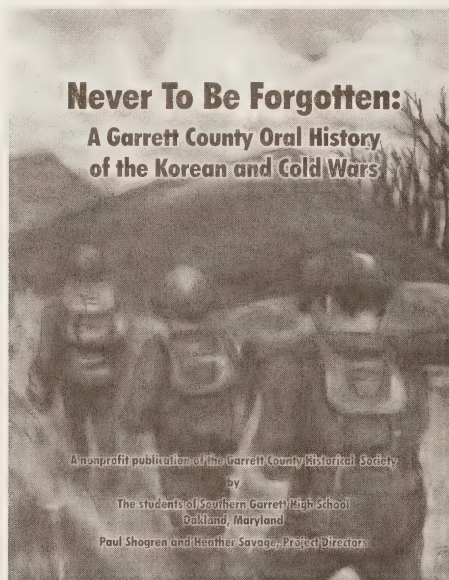
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# Periodical



*Featuring Our Newest Publication:*

## **Never To Be Forgotten: A Garrett County Oral History of the Korean and Cold Wars**



This book is a sequel to the World War II book, also done by the students of Southern Garrett High School. The project was started under the direction of Matt Novak, and was continued and completed under the direction of Heather Savage and Paul Shogren as Project Directors.

**The book is available for purchase at the Museum  
for \$21.20, tax included.**

# THE Glades Star

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THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 11, NO. 18

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

JUNE 2010

## *Construction of the Garrett County Historical Society's New Museum of Transportation Has Begun*

See story  
page 659.



## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.GCHSmuseum.com](http://www.GCHSmuseum.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *Construction of the Garrett County Historical Society's New Museum of Transportation Has Begun*



On the rainy morning of May 17, an exciting "Ground Breaking" took place on East Liberty Street (site of the former Ralph Pritts Garage) for construction of the GCHS's new Museum of Transportation. Present for the ceremony were Troy and Steve Gnegy, of Gnegy Construction; Lonnie Naylor, son of Howard and Audrey Naylor; and Bob Boal, current President of GCHS.

Throughout the week, old concrete was removed from the site and a trench footprint for the new museum was dug. Also dug up was a 4,000-foot rectangle to be located behind the museum to handle surface-water run-off from the new building. As of Monday, May 24, preparations were

being made for the pouring of the concrete footer for the building.

The museum is being constructed through the generous donation from the Howard and Audrey Naylor Family Trust through funds placed with the Community Trust Foundation. The museum site along E. Liberty Street was the result of generous long-term (99 year) leases of land from First United Bank and Trust and the Garrett County Community Action Committee.

The new museum is scheduled for completion within the year. The GCHS Museum Committee is acting as contractor for the project, which will be built by Gnegy Construction of Oakland.

# *A Summer Home in the Mountains—Francis Scott Key's Family In Oakland, Md.*

*By Julia McHenry Howard*

*Editor's Note: This article comes from the Tableland Trails series compiled by Felix G. Robinson, local musician and minister. The Tableland series was a quarterly magazine devoted to the history, folklore, and cultural interests of the tri-state area (Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia). A shorter version appeared in the March 1953 issue of the Glades Star.*

*At this season of the year it is a pleasure to remind our subscribers that many of the Who's Who in American History have been summer residents in the Allegheny Tableland. Among our many notable summer colonists that of Francis Scott Key's family has come to their summer residence in Oakland, Maryland, for eighty-four consecutive years. This might well be the longest record for a single family in summer residence in one place. "The Anchorage" near Deer Park, Maryland, was perhaps the first residence built exclusively for summer use in the Allegheny mountains. This was as early as 1858. It was built by Roger Perry of Cumberland, Maryland. The main residence and guest house was destroyed by fire around 1915. It was not rebuilt. A grandson, Thorson Tayloe*

*Perry, II, resides in Charles Town, West Virginia. His family is also related to the Keys. He has the largest collection of books in existence dealing with the history of West Virginia. Julia Howard, who writes this story, has consented to write her family's version of the origin of "The Star Spangled Banner" for this magazine in a forthcoming issue. Of the Tableland counties, Garrett has the distinction of being host to more summer residents than any other.*

In 1825, Elizabeth Phoebe Key, the eldest child of Francis Scott Key, married Charles Howard, the youngest son of General John Eager Howard. Most of the people mentioned below are, or were, their children or grandchildren.

In 1857, Mrs. Charles Howard (Elizabeth Phoebe Key) and her children and her mother, the widow of Francis Scott Key, were spending a very hot summer in the hotel at the Relay. The B. & O. had not been running through to the Ohio River, and to see the late afternoon train come through from the west was quite an event. One afternoon, a steward, formerly a butler in Mrs.

Howard's home, stepped off the coach for a minute, and recognizing Mrs. Howard, told her that they had, that morning, come through a place where the ladies were walking up and down the platform wearing blankets, shawls, and the station railing was hung with rattlesnake skins.

Next morning Mrs. Howard and Mrs. F. S. Key boarded the train for Oakland. They stayed for some weeks at the old Glades Hotel.

In 1858, they went again, doubtless taking other members of the family with them.

This time they stayed on a farm, known as Bitzer's near where the road to Monte Vista leaves the old West Union road. Mrs. Francis Scott Key died early in 1859, but Mrs. Charles Howard and various members of her family returned. They were already taking root in Oakland. Of course, between 1860 and 1865 no one could travel owing to the Civil War, but in 1868 or 1869 the Howards returned, renting a house on Oak Street, where



**The foot paths through the glades—this picture is a reprint of a painting, artist unknown, made for the American Bank Note Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It presents a true-to-life scene in Mtn. Lake Park, Maryland, around 1890. The paths were made of tan bark.**

in 1869, Charles Howard died.

In 1870 Alice Key Howard, a daughter of Mrs. Charles Howard, bought from a man named Stabler a four room hunting lodge with separate kitchens, standing in a dense grove of oaks, many of whose survivors still surround the present house.

Even in my memory there was an oak grove with a path through it where the present Shafer house now stands. Several additions and wings





**Stabler Cottage (Howard House) that once stood in the 600 block of East Alder Street, summer home of Key family descendants from the late 1860s.**

were built before the original four room lodge became the low rambling red structure, now known as 79 Alder Street.

Willed by Alice Key Howard to her niece, Elizabeth B. Howard, its present owner, it was for eighty years the summer home of many of Francis Scott Key's grandchildren and great grandchildren.

One grandson, John Ross Key, a notable painter, especially of mountain scenery, was a frequent visitor, and one of his paintings of "The Old County Bridge" was long in the possession of an Oakland family.

McHenry Howard, father of Elizabeth G. Howard, was a passionate fisherman, and with his first cousin, Dr. James McHenry Howard, went by horseback, or by horse and

buggy, over then all but impossible roads, on month long fishing trips to the Cheat and Elk Rivers. His diary, illustrated in part by his own sketches, is immediately destined to the Garrett County Historical Society.

Another granddaughter of Francis Scott Key's, Mrs. Edward Lloyd of Wye House, Talbot county, spent much time with her mother in Oakland, as did Mrs. Charlton Morgan (Ellen Key Howard) of Lexington, Kentucky. In fact, Mr. and Mrs. Charlton Morgan and their children spent several winters in Oakland, one at least at 79 Alder Street.

A notable group of boys played together in Oakland in those days. Cal Crim, Henry McComas, Charles McHenry Howard and Thomas Hunt Morgan. Thomas Hunt Morgan,

winner of the Nobel Prize for biology in 1933, and known before his death several years ago as the greatest living biologist in the world, received his first schooling in what I understand was a log cabin schoolhouse in Oakland. He and his cousin, Charles McHenry, were great rattlesnake hunters and amassed a trophy of rattles which I still own.

In 1893, Mrs. Charles Howard (Elizabeth Phoebe Key) celebrated her 90th birthday in Oakland. All day a stream of visitors poured in, people from Oakland and Deer Park. (I have her letter written to an absent member of her family which also, with her picture, will go to the Garrett County Historical Society.) In the evening, a large dinner party was given and I vividly remember the long table decorated with ferns and with ninety candles blazing.

In 1897 she died there, and again

I remember the American Flag in red, white and blue flowers which covered the coffin, sent by "Doctor McComas."

Many members of the family have died at 79 Alder Street, the little daughter of Dr. Edward Lloyd Howard and Laura Maynard Howard first, in 1894. Since then, Mrs. McHenry Howard in 1908, McHenry Howard in 1923, and their daughter May Howard in 1943.

A very deep love for Oakland and Garrett County is born into, and inherited by, all the descendants of Francis Scott Key who have spent their summers at 79 Alder Street, and though for the past two years the present writer is the only member of the family to get there, and that, in all too short a stay, yet it is always with a deep sense of homecoming, of belonging in great part to Garrett County, that I return.

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## *Do you know ...*

... that the May/June 2010 issue of *Maryland Life* magazine featured an article on the history of Deep Creek Lake? The lake, which we know largely as a recreational site and Maryland landmark, began its life primarily as a source for hydroelectric power. The article, written by Jason Tinney, deals with both uses. During his research, the reporter spent an hour interviewing GCHS President Bob Boal and had free access to the museum's archives, including photographs and the March 1948 issue of the *Glades Star*, which featured an article on the history of the lake. The author used museum photographs in his article, and some of his sentences and phrases bear a curious resemblance to some in the 1948 article. If you find any place in *Maryland Life* where GCHS is given credit for this information, let us know. We missed it.

# Mt. Carmel

by Kenneth Legge Hardesty

*Editor's note: Old Victorian and older homes that Mr. Hardesty remembers as a youngster growing up during the Great Depression have always intrigued him, especially the stories associated with owners and former owners of such stately structures. Within the past 40 years most of these homes have disappeared due to disrepair, fire, or to make way for other structures.*

*Some years ago, the author started to make notes of what he remembered about various families, their homes, and what the community was like during the 1930s and 1940s in order to write a book about Mt. Carmel, the name of Aurora, West Virginia, many years ago. This selection is from a chapter that tells about a family that lived across the road from where the author was born and grew up during the 1930s.*

Across the street from our large Victorian home was a stately home of similar structure. Painted white with brown shutters, it had a veranda encompassing most of the front façade with a porch swing facing the lawn and roadway. Porch furniture of a by-gone era was placed for easy entertaining within view of the road and my childhood home, which was known as the Dr. J.H. Legge (my grandfather) home. The furniture was of a brown reed construction with well-worn embossed floral designed cushions. The reeds where the arms rested on the chairs were broken and tattered from past generations of use.

A "widow's walk" was atop the house with French doors opening from a bedroom directly below. Faded curtains draped along each side of the glass doors indicating a room rarely used, as was the case for many rooms in the house. A ghostly appearance seemed to evolve from the structure. As a child, I always felt frightened of the house, especially when my grandfather asked me to run an errand to ask "Mr. Ira" some question or to deliver a hand-written message.

Ira Hardesty was a distant relative who had married into the McCrum family. The McCrums were some of the early settlers of Mt. Carmel. Ira spent most of his life in the general merchandise business —old-fashioned country store; brief earlier periods had been spent in farming and in lumber camps, which were common in the area during the mid and late 1800s. This industry provided abundant employment for local men. Many of those employed at the sawmills had small farms that dotted the mountaintop and valley along the Cheat River. One had to cross a wooden, covered bridge on Rt. 50 just past the sawmill and general store to arrive at the nearest large town of Rowlesburg, which was built along the Cheat River.

Cheat Mountain has a rugged terrain with numerous irregular points and cages. Steep and laden with rock, it is covered with forests that





**The Dr. J.H. Legge Home in Mt. Carmel about 1895. It was built in the 1850s. The author was born and grew up here in the 1930s. On the porch are Dr. J. H. Legge, the author's great-grandfather; Maria Ebert Legge Schrock (holding her dog), the author's grandmother; and her mother, Margaret Reynolds Legge, daughter of William Henry Grimes, who built the Stone Tavern at Brookside in the 1850s.**

include hemlock, oak, maple, cherry, chestnut, and butternut. Large areas of mountain laurel, wild grape, and numerous varieties of vegetation dot the horizon and drop into darkened valleys following the river. The road connecting the mountaintop and Mt. Carmel is steep and treacherous, each sharp curve deceptive of the next, brings a lump into one's throat, a feeling of fear engulfing those who have rarely traveled such terrain. Such a road Ira traveled every day to and from his home at Mt. Carmel, a distance of about six miles.

For years, Ira worked in the sawmill company store at the foot of Cheat Mountain in the sawmill village called Ervin. Prior to being named "Ervin" the town was named "Hardesty," according to some old road maps.

The store at Ervin provided all the necessary needs to the lumbermen and their families. For Ira during the early 1920s, this was additional income, even though this meant traveling Cheat Mountain, especially in the harsh winters when the road was impassable many times. There

were times during deep snows when Ira had to sleep on a cot in the store by the coal- and wood-fired pot belly stove or to board in one of the nearby rough-sawed shanties with a sawmill family. Times were harsh for the workmen and there were no conveniences. A "mad dash" to the outside toilet during a deep snow is not pleasant, especially when the temperature is below zero. A "chamber pot" could be an added convenience!

Most of the lumbermen during his period ate heartily. My grandfather often spoke about the abundant meals served in the lumber camps. One such meal he often described was plates of hot buckwheat cakes, sausage, eggs, sow belly, apple butter, and plenty of steaming coffee. Often times the left-over buckwheat cakes were spread with apple butter and made into sandwiches, and sometimes cold sowbelly was substituted for apple butter. This made for nice lunch-bucket fare. My grandfather, Ernest Schrock, worked in the lumber camps from 1895 to 1905 before he married Dr. Legge's daughter in 1907. My great-grandfather, David Schrock, grew up Amish and operated a sawmill for many years in Aurora. His sons worked with him in the business.

When the roads were clear of snow, even though they were rutted and muddy, Ira would drive his Model T Ford to Ervin, or ride one of his slow-moving, but sure-footed, Belgian horses, which were the envy of the community. He delighted in walking or riding the horses about the countryside. As a boy growing up during the Depression, I rarely

saw him actually work the team of horses; they always seemed to be like a symbol or part of Ira that I will always remember. In later years, the horses would graze in the meadows behind his home—always a beautiful sight as one would go down the Mt. Carmel road towards the Lutheran Church.

Slowly, progress started to come, bringing in the outside world, changing a life style forever. The sawmill at Ervin was abandoned, nothing remained but pieces of discarded lumber and piles of sawdust, rotting sheds, rusty iron rails going into the sheds that no longer saw the sawyer's carriage sliding back and forth with the buzzing of a giant saw blade cutting long slabs of boards from giant logs; no longer the outer yards filled with logs awaiting the sawyer; no longer the giant stacks of freshly cut lumber beside the rail tracks—gone but not forgotten the crews of busy men; now an almost deserted village with the ghost of a sawmill. Weather-beaten wooden shanties, few now in number along the road leading to the covered bridge; a road once muddy and rutted by wagon wheels, now paved for modern travel. The hum of trucks and automobiles now pierce the silence of the sawmill and of the men shouting to one another in the village and in the mill yards.

Time passed, hard times prevailed during the Depression. About 1935 Ira was back on the farm, no longer a store to operate. The store at Mt. Carmel had been operated for many years by the Stemple family and was

known as Stemple's Store. Ira took a job there as a clerk for Cousin Jec-cie Stemple. She was a widow with two grown daughters: Josephine and Louise. I rarely remember Cousin Jeccie waiting on people in the store. She was always dressed in her finery, living in her Victorian home beside the store. I remember her as always cooking or sitting on the large front porch sewing and watching people pass by. Times when I would run errands for my grandmother to the store I would stop by and visit with Cousin Jeccie. She always had such a stately manner, dressed in her finest, bespectacled, hair rolled into a bun at the back of her head, and soft spoken. She appeared to be very old to me, but when one is young older people appeared to be so aged.

It was at this time that I remember Ira best. I regarded him with great respect and always admired him for his sage remarks. He died when I was about 18 years old. Most of the older people in the village respected each other; the families were closely bound by intermarriage within the confines of the community ... cousins and uncles abounded.

The Stemples sold the store to Ira in the 1940s and it was then operated as Hardesty's Store. It was a local hang-out for the local farmers and people residing in the community. About mid-way in the store stood an old pot-bellied coal and wood stove, and nearby several coal buckets served as a place where the men spit their tobacco juice and cigarette butts. Stools and chairs with their backs broken off

circled the stove and lined the shelf and show case on the right side of the store. Show cases full of candies were near the front of the store, and a large wheel of cheddar cheese was always at one end of the counter top. A soft drink cooler with ice packed around the bottles was near the cheese. A Coke was five cents, a coke and a slice, of cheese, 10 cents. Several large tables were laden with shirts, pants, and work shoes. Cigarettes were 15 cents a pack for Lucky Strikes, Camels, and Chesterfields. The second floor of the store was used for the I.O.O.F Lodge Hall. In the earlier years when Stemples had the store, it was used for other events. I remember "Ole-timers" talking about the fine oyster dinners served there.

Hardesty's Store operated for many years; brother Ted Hardesty and Ira's half-sister would assist in the business when needed. People coming into the store could also get a haircut for 25 cents. Ira had an old bar stool near the back of the store used as a barber chair; as well as a loafing stool.

Script was used in the store for purchases as well as charge accounts. When we took eggs to the store, we were paid in script—metal coins with 50 cents, 10 cents, or 5 cents on them. Some would be worth \$1.00 or \$5.00. People would also bring sausage, laying hens, grain, etc. to barter.

After World War II, the mode of living started to change; business declined in the village, and people left to find work in nearby towns and cities. The old folks stayed and finally they, too, were gone.



# "Say It With Flowers"

by Felix G. Robinson

A year before Henry Weber Sr. arrived in this country Park Benjamin in one of his sonnets said "Flowers are Love's truest language."

One frequently reads in the Old Testament prophets how a desert is turned into a garden. Eighty years ago an alder swamp along the Little Yough between Oakland and Mountain Lake Park, Maryland, was drained and cleared. A man with six mules from the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was hired. The going was so rough that it is said he could be heard in Oakland and Mountain Lake Park at the same time when stubborn mules, stubborn soil and roots collaborated in what was an almost insurmountable collusion. His frustrations aroused a mighty-voiced invective. When the job was done he is remembered to have said: "I would not plow this field

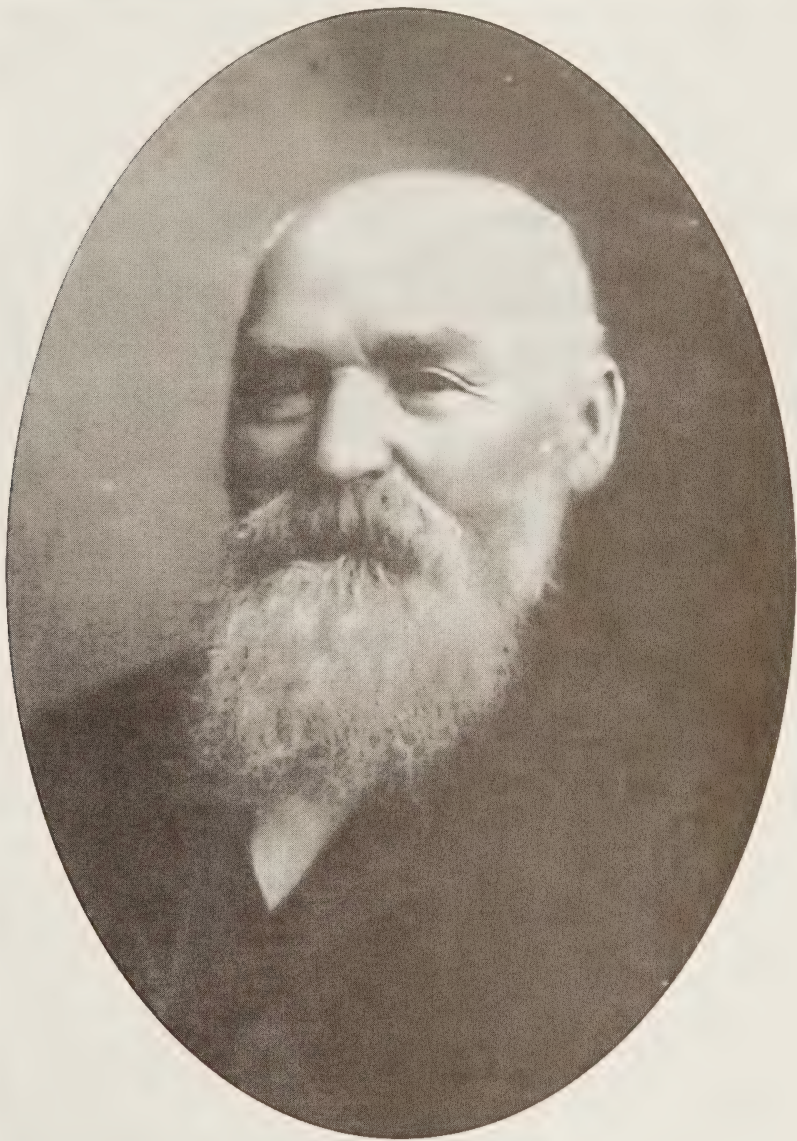
again not for Jesus Christ, let alone Henry Weber."

From the rich soil of this once semi-submerged glade, once a part of the Hoya Estate, there sprang delectable vegetables and glamorous flowers.

Henry Weber Sr. was born in June 1835 in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, a son of John and Elizabeth Weber. His father was a farmer. His wife, the mother of five children, of whom Henry was the youngest, died in her fifty-ninth year. He attended school until his fifteenth year when he apprenticed himself to a florist. Four years later he hired himself to the British Army and saw active service on Cape Colony, Africa, in the Kaffir War. The Crimean War (1854-55) was the same year. His rank was that of an aide-de-camp to a British general.



Seelheim, the Weber homestead near Oakland, Md.



**The Founder—Henry Weber Sr. (1835-1904). Picture through the courtesy of Miss Edith Weber, Oakland, Md.**

It is not known how long Mr. Weber served in the British Army, but he must have got around considerably.

In 1863, with his brother John, he immigrated to America and es-

tablished a truck-gardening farm at Mt. Savage, Md., then a prosperous community of iron manufacturing and coal mining. The following year he married Miss Catherine Schutz





**Weber's greenhouses.**

of that place. Four years later, 1870, he moved from Mt. Savage to the Potomac Manor (now the site of the Kelly-Springfield Tire Company plant) where his nephew, John A. Bopp, was experimenting with green houses. Mr. Weber's early training as a florist now served him well.

He met Henry Gassaway Davis who had already established himself in Garrett County. Mr. Davis described the rich glade lands and said that since the coming of the railroad to the top of the mountains the development of summer resorts was a certainty, and this would mean a ready market for produce.

In 1878 Mr. Weber opened a grocery store on Rail Road Street, the only business street in Oakland at the time. Joseph Smithman was placed in charge. His customers were train passengers and townsfolk.

By 1883, the year he and his family moved via railroad from Cumberland to their farm then known as Weber's Flats, there were nine children; two others were born in their first house in the glades. By 1900 Mr. Weber had built "Seelheim" (named for his hometown in Germany) a large residence that is still the residence of his three remaining children—Dianna, Edith and John.

At first he raised celery, asparagus, and cauliflower for the summer hotel trade. At that time the Oakland and Deer Park Hotels were his principal customers. The first telephone line in Garrett County was between the Oakland Hotel, the Oakland railroad station, Weber's and the Deer Park Hotel. But he soon found a market for his hot-house flowers. At various exhibitions of horticulture such as the World Fair in Chicago in 1893 he



came off with first prizes. Mr. Weber ranked as one of the leading pioneers of horticulture in this country. For years he also conducted a dairy farm, his stock was supplied from the farm of Henry Gassaway Davis. His two oldest sons, Henry and William, were the first of his children to be associated in the firm.

He died in January 1904 in his sixty-ninth year. Pastor C. T. Russell, Founder of "The Millennial Dawn," officiated at his funeral. He belonged to what was known then as The Church of The Living God now known as Jehovah's Witnesses. He was a 'pilgrim' of this church and visited many cities where he spoke at meetings held in public halls and churches.

The Weber family, along with the development of its business, has made an exceptional record in public relations. Community enterprises have elicited their leadership and support. The contribution of this family, especially that of Henry's son, Ralph, recently deceased, is a story in itself.

Logan Weber, son of Ralph, is now the head of the firm and currently is President of the Rotary Club of Oakland.

1870—Charles Taze Russell began his study of the Bible with a small group of associates.

1879—"Zion's Watchtower" began publication in July.

1884—"Zion's Watchtower Tract Society" was chartered in the State of Pennsylvania.

1886—"The Divine Plan of The Ages" was published as Vol. I of the six books titled "Millennial Dawn."

1889—The "Bible House" was constructed at Allegheny, Pennsylvania, as headquarters for the Society; later moved to Brooklyn, N. Y. Then known as The Church of the Living God; later as Jehovah's Witnesses.

#### THE WEBER GENEALOGY

Henry Weber Sr., born June 3, 1835, died Jan. 21, 1904; Catherine Schutz, born Feb. 2, 1846; died 1929; Henry Weber and Catherine Schutz were married Feb. 2, 1866.

#### CHILDREN OF HENRY WEBER AND CATHERINE SCHUTZ

1) Mary, born Dec. 18, 1866; died June 1954.

2) Henry P., born April 24, 1868; died July 2, 1907.

3) William, born Nov. 5, 1869; died 1935.

4) Elizabeth, born January 11, 1871; died July 11, 1960.

5) Katherine, born April 3, 1873; died Nov. 5, 1960.

6) George B., born Feb. 1, 1875; died July 27, 1958.

7) Diana B., born June 28, 1877.

8) Edith L., born March 18, 1879.

9) John W., born September 10, 1882.

10) Franklin W., born June 22, 1884; died Feb. 9, 1910.

11) Ralph E., born March 24, 1887; died Feb. 17, 1961.

Henry P. Weber married Grace Jackson of Lonaconing, Md., Sept. 18, 1893. Grace Jackson, born 1867; died 1945. Children:

(1) Jeannette

(2) Alice

(3) Henry Alfred

(4) Reginald

(5) Beatrice

William Weber married Lucy Swann of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 12, 1902.

Children:

(1) Wilhelm H., of Clarksburg, W. Va., born Nov. 28, 1904.

(2) C. Swann of Washington, D.C., born July 1, 1906.

Ralph Weber married Mary Bond of DuBois, Penna., September 3, 1903.

Children:

(1) Catherine Lucille, born Aug. 9, 1914; died Oct. 17, 1917.

(2) Logan, born November 21, 1915.

(3) Bond, born Feb. 23, 1918.

(4) Jack, born Aug. 5, 1920.

(5) Betsy, born Oct. 23, 1923.

(6) Cara, born Nov. 9, 1925.

(7) Ralph Howard, born Nov. 25, 1921; died 1922.

(8) David, born June 26, 1928.

Peter Schutz, father of Catherine Schutz, died January 3, 1877; James Logan Bond, father of Mary Bond, died March 18, 1926; Lucy Swann, wife of William Weber, died 1960; Helen, wife of Swann Weber., died 1960; Mary Bond, wife of Ralph Weber, died February 17, 1960; Grace Jackson, wife of Henry P. Weber, born 1867; died 1945.

## Memorials

**Esther M. Yoder**

Martha V. DeBerry

**John R. Browning**

Joan M. Browning

**R. Thomas Thayer**

Jacquelyn Shirer

**Sharon Markwood**

Martha V. DeBerry

Eleanor Callis

Bob & Leanna Boal

## Donations

Immogene Ragan

Bob and Susannah Kurtz

Ethel Rae Snyder

John and Mary Jane Park

Wayne and Judy Witt

Rotary Club of Oakland, MD

Jodelle E. Wilson

Mary Alice Fries

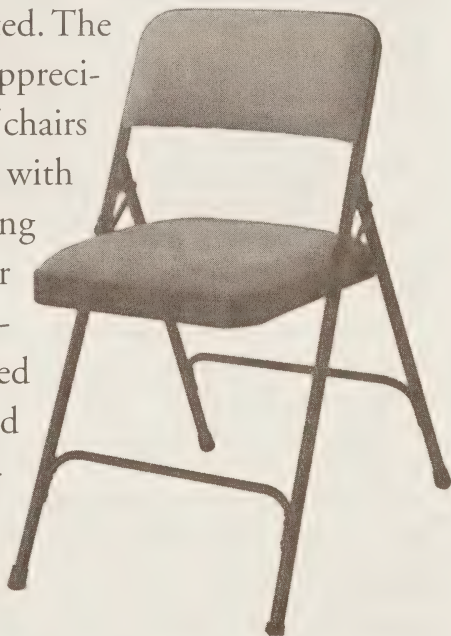
## Technology Donation

Thomas M. Kennedy

## *GCHS Still Needs the Help of Its Members and Friends*

In the March issue of the *Glades Star*, the museum requested the financial assistance of its members and friends for the purchase of eight folding tables and 64 padded folding chairs for the media/multipurpose room to be located off the second floor of the new Museum of Transportation. To date, all eight folding tables were donated by members Eugene and Lillian Elliott of Keedysville. Also, 24 of the needed

64 chairs have been donated. The GCHS certainly would appreciate additional donation of chairs or any donations to help with the furnishing or opening of the new museum later this year. A special bank account has been established for these donations, and donors will be acknowledged in future issues of the *Glades Star* and with plaques on various items of furniture. The cost of individual folding chairs is \$32.50.





# Meschach Browning Fishing And Hunting Club

*by Dr. F. C. Robinson*



**Visitors on Browning dam.**

Browning Dam was built by two sons of Meschach Browning, Thomas and James, in 1852. It was located at the upper reaches of Muddy Creek near Cranesville, elevation 2541.

Mr. S. F. Jones was a banker and business man of Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania, and was also an inveterate fisherman. In his trips to different streams he heard about Browning Dam and the wonderful fishing to be had there.

He made his first trip to Brown-

ing Dam in 1873 and was so much pleased with this trip that he took friends up to fish. This continued until 1899 when he and his friends decided to form a Club and buy some land and lease the fishing rights from J. F. Lewis, who then owned this dam.

Mr. Jones acquired the land and leases and by deed date, August 18, 1899, he transferred his holding to the Charter Members of the Club whose names are recorded in the deed. They are as follows:



**Browning-Feichtner Hotel.**

J.H. Stewart—General freight agent for Pennsylvania R.R. Lines, Pittsburgh, Pa.

A.M. Scott—Wholesale grocer, Pittsburgh, Pa.

C.A. Anderson—Shook, Anderson & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Jos. H. Herron—Monongahela

T.L. Daly—Banker and distiller, Charleroi

Richard Hartze—Harze Bros., Pittsburgh, Pa.

T.C. Renzuhausen—Merchant, Pittsburgh, Pa.

D.C. Shaw—Pittsburgh, Pa.

James M. Bell—Broker, Pittsburgh, Pa.

James S. Jones—Banker, Pittsburgh, Pa.

T.G. Brown—Banker and real estate, Belle Vernon, Pa.

Rev. P. Baker—Pres. Minister,

Belle Vernon, Pa.

S.F. Jones—Whitney & Stevenson, Belle Vernon, Pa.

George I. Whitney, Wholesale grocer, Belle Vernon, Pa.

George W. Dilworth, Banker, Belle Vernon, Pa.

Thomas D. Chantler, Attorney, Pittsburgh, Pa.

J.W. Marsh—Standard U. C. & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.

James Todd—Wholesale paints and oils, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The records show that only Brook Trout were native to these waters and it was not until a year or so after they organized their club that they began stocking fish. One of the first plantings was a large shipment of Rainbow Trout; these came from the National Government. Never in the history of the club up to 1931, at which time I



**The Browning Hotel. This summer hotel near Cranesville by the side of Browning Dam, an impoundment of Muddy Creek, was a famous place for fishermen not too many years back. The hotel was located on the J.F. Lewis farm. Picture taken about 1900.**

lost contact with its affairs, did it use any fish from the State Government. For years fish were either bought on the market or obtained from the National Government. In the early twenties some brown trout were sent in by mistake and in the middle twenties for the first time in the history of those waters suckers were caught. These had been placed in the upper waters over which we had no control, by the natives. This was a serious blow to the fishing.

Our bylaws were a little more stringent than the state law in regard to size and number of fish taken and fishing on Sunday was prohibited.

A roster was kept and each day the number of fish taken were listed in the

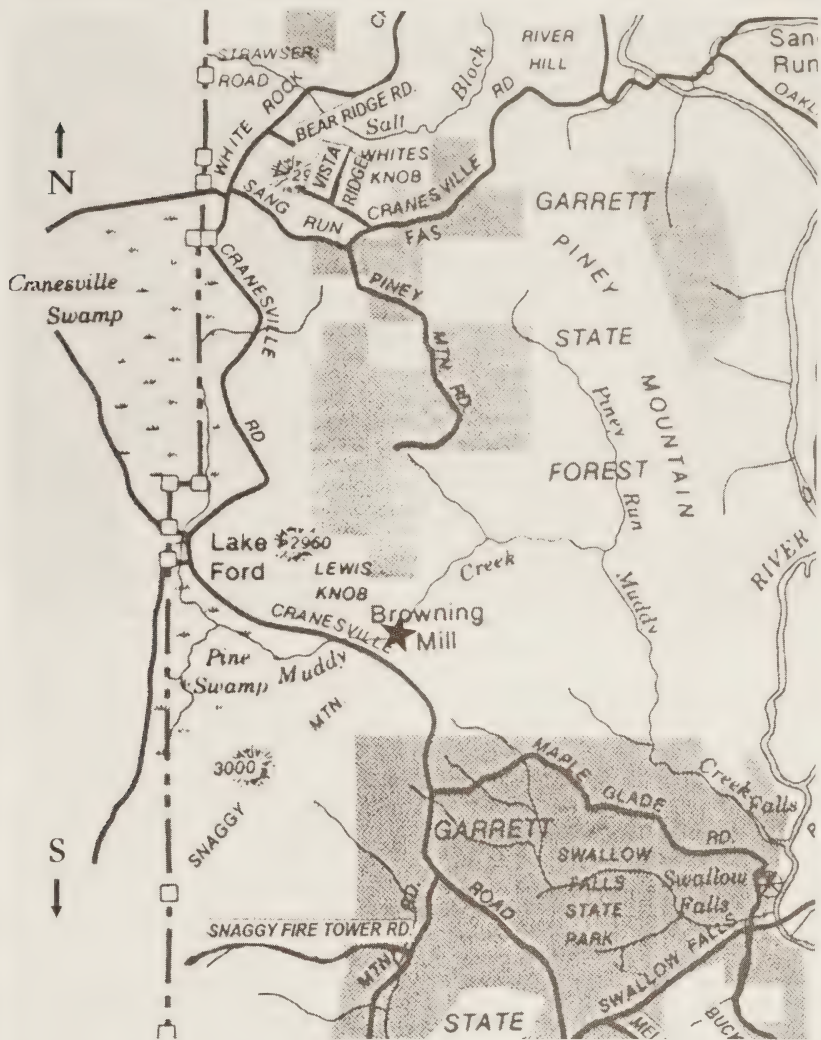
book. This was not strictly enforced but it gave us a fair idea of the number of fish taken each year.

Most all fishing was done by boat as the body of water was perhaps a mile or more in length.

Fly fishing was wonderful and often the limit could be had by this method of fishing. The largest trout that had been caught up until 1931 was a 24½ inch Rainbow. In our water the Rainbows took flies better than Brook trout and seemed to put up a better fight.

We had a main club house with twelve beds and several privately owned cottages. We had wonderful meals at the farm house and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Lewis were always





Browning's mill was about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile downstream from the original Muddy Creek bridge. The bridge was replaced around 1952. The new bridge was near where the hotel had stood, less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile upstream from the original bridge. Browning Dam washed out in 1956.

excellent hosts.

In the early days the men drove over in surreys or buggies, but since this took two days of travel each way this method of transportation was discontinued. For some years before automobiles were in use the trip was

made by Baltimore and Ohio R. R. from Pittsburgh to Cumberland and thence changing trains to Oakland. From here we took a carriage to the Club house. This trip consumed a whole day's travel so it was quite a relief when the roads were improved



**Muddy Creek, downstream from bridge.**

enough to make the trip by automobile. I think my first trip in this manner was in 1912 or 1913.

In about 1921 or 1922 my boys insisted on taking a radio over to our cottage. They rigged up an aerial between two high trees and we had fair reception. It was the first time that a radio had been heard over there and caused some little interest.

For twenty years I fished Browning Dam and it occupies a place in my memory which nothing else can replace.

There have been a couple experiences that I think might be interesting.

One day my sons and I were out on the porch of our cottage and I saw what appeared to be a snake swimming across the Lake. As it came closer it looked as if two snakes

were swimming one right behind the other. I had heard that rattle snakes always held their rattles up out of the water but it was the first time I ever had seen it. When the rattler came to the shore I shot it. It had about seven rattles and it had swum at least one hundred to one hundred fifty yards across the dam.

One of our members built a log cottage across the Lake where no cottages had been built. There were many rattle snakes on that side of the dam and when anyone went over there they used extreme caution.

When his cabin was finished, and it was a very nice structure, he and his wife went to look it over. As they opened the door a large rattle snake slithered down from the lintel above the door. They left in a hurry. No one ever slept in that cottage so far



**Boatride.**

as I recollect.

Speaking of rattle snakes reminds me that we had a good "fishing hole" called "Rattle Snake Hole." It got its name in a rather peculiar way. One of our older members instead of going out in a boat went up to this fishing hole and propped himself on the upper rail of a stake and rider fence that extended down to the water's edge to keep cattle confined in a certain field. He often fished from this rail fence and sometimes took a nap while reclining against the rider.

This day he was taking a nap and one of the men was floating down the Dam, fly fishing, and as he came close to the spot he noticed a large rattle snake sunning itself right below his feet. Instead of calling to him he began to whistle to wake him up. As soon as he opened his eyes his friend in the boat cautioned him against getting excited but told him there was a large rattle snake directly under his feet. He took one look and then

jumped, landing in the water well above his waist. From that time on that has been called "Rattle Snake Hole".

Forty years ago Browning Dam was one of the most beautiful spots in Garrett County. On the North side of the Lake the forest was dense and luxurious with rhododendrons hanging out over the water. In July this was one huge mass of bloom and the colors ranged from faint pink to dark red. It was a sight well worth seeing. Ruffed grouse were abundant and now and then a bear could be seen in the wilder shoreline.

In the evening sitting on the porch it was a beautiful sight to see the trout breaking the surface of the water and the urge to get out and cast a fly was almost irresistible. Now, after all these years, my fancy carries me back to those lazy days when a man could get away for a time and forget all his troubles and truly enjoy the beauties of God's outdoors.



# *GCHS Annual Spring Fundraising Dinner*



**Martha DeBerry, Brenda Gnegy and Eleanor Callis receiving guests at annual Spring Fundraiser, May 14, 2010.**

The GCHS held its Annual Spring Fundraising Dinner on Friday, May 14, with a sold-out crowd of 125 members and friends. The "Deluxe Turkey Dinner" was exceptional as always. Following dessert, GCHS President Bob Boal spoke briefly about the approaching construction date of the new GCHS Museum of Transportation. The program for the evening was a PowerPoint presentation by Dr. Edwin Michael, retired WVU professor, who recently authored two books containing much local history. The first of these local-interest books is a history of the Ca-



**Author and guest speaker Dr. Edwin Michael, retired WVU professor.**

naan Valley, but the subject of the evening's program was the historical fiction "Shadow of the Alleghenies," which details life and events of the tri-state area in the 1700s era of the French and Indian War. Through a fictional character named Angus Mc-

Callander and his wolf pup, Schatto, Dr. Michael enthralls the reader with the difficulties of life at the time in our wilderness region. Following his presentation, Dr. Michael sold many of his books and generously donated \$5.00 from each sale to GCHS.



GCHS President Bob Boal presenting Troy Gnegy of Gnegy Construction with the building permit (issued that day) for construction of the new Garrett County Museum of Transportation on Liberty Street.

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# *New Photos for Museum Archives*

These Garrett County photos were recently donated to the museum by Kay Phelps, granddaughter of lo-

cal historian Ross C. Durst and niece of current GCHS member Wilda Sanders.



The Jennings Cornet Band, September 10, 1911. Seated in front: Russell Stark, Ernest Blocher, Frank Blocher. Front Row, Standing: Gideon Miller, Oscar Smith, Daniel Klotz(?), Christian Yommer, Harry Miller (?), John Blocher, Olin Oester, Galen Beachy. Back Row: Bruce Shaw, Arthur Loarnick, Harry Shaw, Rev. (?) Clarence Waite, Ross Durst, Harry Butler, Anthony Emerson.



The Bittering Normal School—1907. Included in the photo are: Harry Miller, Ray Engle, Mrs. Fazenbaker, Myrtle Custer, Lydia Selders, Laura Fazenbaker, Professor King, Ross Durst, Lucretia Wiley, O. Buckel, Clarence Bittering, and Missouri Bowman. Also in the photo are three for whom there are only last names—Bowser (2) and Orendorf. Can anyone supply the first names of these three?



# *The Hitching Post*

*by Dennis Rasche*



James Alva Kelly, proprietor of Helbig's Livery Barn, 111 years ago.



**J.A. Kelly Livery 1912, site of the new Museum of Transportation. The tall building at left now houses MasterCraft Printers. Its third story was lost to a storm a few years ago.**

*Editor's note: This article from the September 1955 issue of the Glades Star tells about the livery stable that was located over 100 years ago on the site where the GCHS's new transportation museum is being built.*

**I**n some of the towns and villages that are shopping and trading centers for a surrounding farming population, one occasionally passes a vacant lot equipped with hitching posts, or sometimes a horizontal iron pipe supported by posts. These reminders of a time half a century ago are for the convenience of those country people

who still prefer the horse for farm work and transportation; they are the parking lots for faithful old Dobbin, of all animals man's most useful and reliable friend, both in peace and in war, during about four milleniums. His usefulness has been well-nigh obliterated by the fifty-four million cars and trucks today rolling along the nation's fine roads, and with the decline of usefulness his numbers have been greatly diminished. In 1905, when the country's population was ninety-five million, about twenty-four million horses responded to the bid-

ding of "whoa" and "giddap." Today, with the population numbering one hundred and sixty-five million, but five million horses munch their oats or gaze disinterestedly across pasture fences at the speeding motor cars. Undoubtedly, this number will be reduced very much more in the years to come.

The association of man and horse has continued during a very long span of time, beginning at a time so remote its history is mere scientific guesswork. Cave inscriptions in Europe seem to be the earliest entry in the record. These are excellent representations of the horse, supposed to have been scratched on the rock walls of caves with crude flint tools by men of the smooth stone age. Man had not then even begun to learn the art of working in metals, and it was centuries before he would begin the development of a written language. It is believed that men of this period, the Neolithic, first domesticated animals, the horse among them. Tomb paintings in Egypt depict the horse employed in warfare. These date to the time of Shepherd Kings, about 2100 to 1650 B.C. In the Old Testament the earliest mention is in Genesis 47:17, in which Joseph relieves the famine-stricken Egyptians, giving them food in exchange for their horses, cattle and flocks. The date is fixed in the Usher chronology at 1700 B.C.

When the equine population of this country was at peak, that very considerable part of the economic and social life of the nation not served by the railroads was geared and adjusted

to the strength and endurance of the horse.

Nowadays the volume of goods and materials transported in motor trucks is enormous. There are abundant statistics, but we do not need them. It is enough to stand a moment on any street side in town or city, or at the side of any road, and view the passing conveyances. Once all of this traffic was horse-drawn, although the volume then was perhaps not a quarter of that presently being transported in trucks. Even so, it was big for the time, and the slow-motion pace. It was an impressive demonstration of the value to man of his obedient and hard-working servitor.

Before the advent of steam power overland transport developed but little down through the centuries. A few minor improvements in wagons and carriages, and a passable road here and there, nearly sums up the whole advance. During all this time the horse supplied most of the motive power. The plodding ox, the thirst-enduring camel, and a few other beasts of burden contributed only a minor share of the needed strength and energy.

But progress continues apace; none may stay its march, and happily none, or few, want to.

Then came the internal combustion engine. For a few years the automobile was a costly and luxurious plaything for the well-to-do. Then the pace of multiplication of horse-power by machines increased rapidly. Speedily the leisurely life of the pre-motor age quickened into





Martin's Livery, 1905. It stood where the Exxon Station at the corner of Third and Oak Streets now stands. Elements of the livery's architecture are used in the design of the façade of the Transportation Museum.

one wherein people seem always in a great hurry to go from some place where they may not be doing so well to some other place where they will be not one whit better off.

After the automobile and truck came other marvels of man's ingenuity, the airplane, the Diesel. But they, and even the steam locomotive, are but Johnny-Come-Latelies in the long story of man's transport. Before the advent of the gasoline engine only the steam engine had impaired Dobbin's dominance in a big way. The locomotive was, by 1905, hauling the great bulk of heavy freight and long-distance passenger traffic.

Once arrived at some railroad station, much of this had still to be delivered to its final destination by horse-drawn wagon or passenger conveyance. And at the time even the Iron Horse's huffing and puffing and mournful wails had been heard during scarcely seventy-five years; not a long time when forty centuries of land transportation are being hastily and sketchily considered.

Before the great change, life was unhurried, the pace of living much less feverish. Little or nothing was heard of stomach ulcers.

Hitching posts on the street, though not nearly so numerous as parking meters, were to be seen here and there, as was an occasional watering trough. Some drivers carried a portable iron weight in buggy or wagon, to which one end of a bridle rein could be attached. This kept the horse from ambling off to the nearest grass patch.

A few bridges spanning small and shallow streams were purposely built narrow and on one side of the road. Room was thus left in the roadway so that teams could be driven into the stream, and the horses allowed to drink.

Brick pavements had by this time been laid on the main streets of small towns, but most of the side streets were unpaved, as were the open roads leading to and from towns. Careful drivers seldom drove their beasts faster than a walk on the pavements, any faster pace being hard on the animals and on their iron shoes. The measured clop-clop of iron-shod hoofs on pavement, and the clang of some distant hammer on anvil, were familiar sounds, reassuring ones.

Small-town dwellers heard them, and knew that all was well, nothing untoward was afoot to disturb the almost "noiseless tenor of their way."

In those days the livery stable, the blacksmith shop, where horses were shod and vehicles repaired, the harness maker's shop, and other accessory enterprises were of the same degree of importance in the daily life of a community as are now the garage, the automobile sales room, the filling station, and other related activities.

Few of the buildings that once housed the blacksmith shop or livery barn still stand. They were for the most part flimsy, ramshackle structures; it would seem to us now that their builders sensed that they were nearing the end of an age-long era in transportation. Such few of the buildings as have survived the ravages





**Helbig's Livery, 18 First Street, 1910,**

of time were more painstakingly built in the first place, and have been kept painted and in repair.

One such building remains in Oakland, on Oak street between Third and Fourth streets. It was a livery conducted by Tom Martin, an ardent horseman, who was very painstaking in the care of his animals, and who saw to it they were well-housed. It is still in use as a storage place for machinery.

One of the hitching post lots previously mentioned was installed in Oakland during recent years. This is on Second street, near the post office.

In their time the livery stables were scenes of busy activity. Out of town visitors left their beasts to be cared for, fed and watered, while they occupied themselves with whatever affairs brought them to town. People

coming by train could hire "rigs" by the day or hour. A rig was any kind of passenger conveyance, drawn by one, two, or even four horses. Saddle horses were available too for any who wanted them.

On special days, such as Independence Day, it sometimes befell that the liveryman would not have enough horses and equipages to supply the demand. This gave rise to one piece of small-town humor that probably had circulation in every town and village across the nation. In the story the liveryman, often a jocund individual, whose mild humor was pointed at some other jokester who replied in kind, is approached by a customer who wants to hire a horse.

"Look here," says the liveryman, "I've got only one horse left. I can't let you have him. Supposing you took



him and then someone else came and asked for a horse. Wouldn't I be in a fix!"

Nearly everybody then liked and admired a nice horse; perhaps today nearly everybody still does, though we now see so few of them.

Occasionally some unknown "turn out" came into town, maybe a shiny new surrey drawn by a pair of spirited and well-groomed bays. This would excite as much attention as a jet plane circling at low altitude over a town now does. Visitors to the cities never failed to admire the dashing gallantry of the horses galloping along with the red fire engine, or gaze in awe at the size and power of the grey Percherons hitched to the brewery trucks.

Although no longer necessary in farming, industry, and general transportation, at least a few fields remain wherein the horse yet holds his one-time importance. Horse racing today attracts more spectators than any other outdoor sport, outdrawing its nearest competitor, organized baseball, by many millions annually. This leaves out of the reckoning attendance at the deservedly popular Little League baseball games. These leagues number more than two thousand, their rapid rise being a thoroughly wholesome development in the country's outdoor life. It is likely that if their attendance were counted baseball would exceed racing by a wide margin in drawing spectators.

Racing had a scattering of small-town followers too away back yonder. Once in a while a few aficionados

would saddle their drivin' horse for a match of speed along some level and reasonably smooth stretch of lane or road.

There is yet another field where in *Equus Caballus* holds his own, the "Western." The hard-ridin' hero, terror of evil-doers, arrayed in "chaps" and two-gallon hat, must be borne on a fleet to mount to within six-gun range before he can apprehend stage coach bandit or cattle rustler. Man and beast have galloped madly along so much celluloid that if all the strips were pasted end to end the total length might encircle the globe. Space ship and space man may eventually supplant them but the time is not yet.

Only a few of the social uses of the horse may be mentioned in this space. That youthful gallant whose parents were affluent enough to provide him with a good trotter and a rubber-tired runabout enjoyed a favored social status, and an undue share of the smiles of the wasp-waisted, balloon-sleeved charmers of the time. Maybe the one horse-power runabout yielded as much romantic mileage as the 90 H.-P. Buick now does. Those wasp-waists of the long-gone yester-year could have, at a corresponding age, competed on equal terms with their more sensibly attired granddaughters if lined up beside them in a Miss America type contest, bathing suit, city label, and all. The degree of allure might have to be decided by the toss of a coin.

The "hay ride" was a firmly established tradition among the youthful. The liveryman furnished a team of

horses. A dozen or more of boys and girls would take their places, and to the merry sound of jingling bells and joyous songs go hurtling along some snow-covered road at the headlong speed of nine or ten miles an hour.

Mayhap some boy held some girl's hand. Mayhap again a hundred thousand enduring life-companionships began on a hay ride, as good as any of the thousand situations dear to story-writers wherein boy meets girl.

Gazing backward through the mists of time those days seem story book-like, more colorful than the present. But elderly realists with long

memories see other things besides the Currier and Ives-like back-drop and scenery. They recall that life was much more rugged and toilsome; it lacked many conveniences and comforts he now enjoys. All was not happy dancing on the village green and merry singing of hey-nonny-nonny.

Doubtless every sentimental and nostalgic oldster would gladly return to that Golden Age in every man's life, his youth. But he would want to leave "his" rheumatism and ulcers behind, and take back with him his motor car, his television, and quite a few other pushbutton gadgets that help make life easier and more agreeable these days.

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# Oakland Accessions

February 26, 2010 — May 24, 2010

Glass cream pitcher and spoonholder

from the Weber home ..... *gift of Bob and Leanna Boal*

Set of five Southern High School yearbooks (1972 through

1976), anniversary plaque for the Cross 50th wedding

anniversary, 1890 map of Maryland with unusual towns

showing in Garrett County .... *gift of Lawrence Sherwood*

"Moving Maryland Forward—A Century of Modern Road

Building" ..... *gift of Valerie Edgar*

Framed invitation to First Grand Ball

in Offutt's Music Hall ..... *gift of Bob Boal*

Green Coca-Cola bottle—Oakland, tall brown Orange

Crush bottle, porcelain door knob, toy Tonka Army Jeep,

Dinky Track spike, railroad spike, milk can from Oakland

MD/Terra Alta truck, blow torch, U.S. Army WWII

canteen, old knife w/black wood handle, fork w/wood

handle, brown Orange Crush bottle, brown bottle from

Cumberland Brewing Co., Fairfield Western Maryland

Dairy milk bottle, Whistle bottle—Terra Alta, Pepsi-Cola

bottle, Natural Set-up bottle from Shaef's, B&O Railroad

lantern w/red globe, green Oakland Pharmacy bottle,

J.W. Wenzel M.D. bottle ..... *gift of Douglas Rumer*

Ivory fan, "Gone with the Wind" lamp, pink bisque figurine

of girl—ca. 1900, Victorian silverplate and glass pickle

castor—ca. 1880, Eastlake-style tall glass covered



compote—ca. 1800s, blue floral bowl and pitcher set  
—ca. 1900, coopering too..... *gift of Bob and Leanna Boal*

Red and green flowered  
dresser scarf.....*loaned by Martha V. DeBerry*

Postcard of First National Bank, Postcard of  
Cheat River covered bridge near  
Red House, Maryland .....*gift of Bob and Connie Fletcher*

“The Maps and papers of William H.H. Friend,  
2nd Edition” by Patrick T. Smith and Patty (Friend)  
Thompson .....*gift of Pat Thompson*

Original Swanton United Methodist Church  
Bible—1906, bell from Swanton Methodist  
Church..... *gift of Barbara George Miller*

Medical bleeders in case, German military flashlight from  
WWI, toy auto bank from Garrett National Bank,  
Doan's Pills tin, Blackstone's aspirin tin, box of matches  
from First United Bank, matchbook from First United  
Bank..... *gift of Paul and Alice Eary*

Package of yellow bias tape .....*gift of Beverly Beard*

Eighteen scrapbooks of news clippings, photos, postcards etc.  
organized by town and covering Oakland, Mtn. Lake Park,  
Loch Lynn, Crellin, Underwood, Hutton, Deer Park,  
Swanton, and Kitzmiller, MD .....*gift of Deloris J. Murphy*

Maryland State Medical Journal containing articles  
written by Dr. James H. Feaster and  
Dr. E.I. Baumgartner.....*gift of Doris Feaster*

- Antique gasoline can for boat motor, metal advertising sign for Johnson's outboard motors from Bowman's Marina, large color matted photograph of Bowman's Marina, 1952 ad for Chris-Craft boats, 1956 ad for Johnson Sea-Horse boat motors..... *gift of Charles "Skeeter" Bowman*
- Korean War uniform ..... *gift of Carl Rebele*
- Antique picture frame ..... *gift of Bob and Leanna Boal*
- Horse feeding tube and feed box, two champion trophies for Mt. Top Church League—  
1969 and 1972.....*gift of Mark Marucci*
- Antique fence maul ..... *gift of Paul and Alice Eary*
- Black salt and pepper shakers from  
Ward's Restaurant.....*gift of Keith Harsh*
- Brief family history of Adrian F. Glotfelty, military items (WWII) belonging to Adrian F. Glotfelty—  
uniform jacket and pants, socks, leg wraps,  
Dopp kit, mess kit..... *gift of Addie Glotfelty*
- Model of Chris-Craft Barrelback boat with stand,  
lighted metal sign for Fox Trac  
snowmobile..... *gift of Charles "Skeeter" Bowman*
- Notes of Ross C. Durst on Civil War veterans from  
Garrett County, photograph of Bitteringer Normal  
School—1907, photograph of  
Jennings Band—1911 ..... *gift of Kay Phelps Pohl*

# *Donations for the Transportation Museum—May 2010*

## *Tables*

Eugene and Lillian Elliott—8 tables

## *Chairs*

Jere and Catherine Yohn—2 chairs

Robert and Rita Watson—5 chairs

Lee and Kathy Maes—3 chairs

Don Callis—1 chair in memory of Carl L. Callis

Theodore Sprangle—1 chair in memory of Mary  
Sprangel

1 chair in memory of Anna Kronberger-  
Rumpler

1 chair in memory of Mary June Woerner

Bob & Leanna Boal—1 chair in memory of  
Landon Boal

Matthew Stieringer—1 chair in honor of Fran  
Stieringer

Rodney and Dora Shaffer—1 chair in honor of  
the Thayer Grandchildren: Zach, Noah, and  
Ian Thayer

Ascanio and Jean Boccuti—2 chairs in honor of  
Troy and Frances Gnegy

Mabel and Bill Thompson—2 chairs in honor of  
Sara and Tom Gibbs

Carl Rebele—2 chairs in honor of Ann and Carl  
Rebele

## *Monetary Donations*

David and Helene Wheeler



# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or  
joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only  
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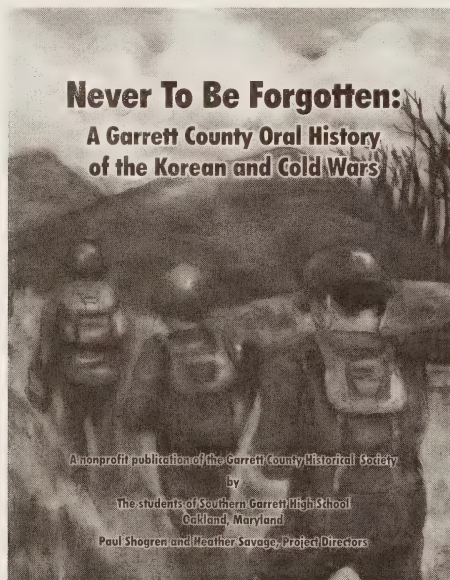
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# Periodical



*Featuring Our Newest Publication:*

## **Never To Be Forgotten: A Garrett County Oral History of the Korean and Cold Wars**



This book is a sequel to the World War II book, also done by the students of Southern Garrett High School. The project was started under the direction of Matt Novak, and was continued and completed under the direction of Heather Savage and Paul Shogren as Project Directors.

**The book is available for purchase at the Museum  
for \$21.20, tax included.**

# THE Glades Star

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VOL. 11, NO. 19

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

SEPTEMBER 2010

## *The Building On The Hill*

*by Marilyn Regentin*

*See Story Page 699*





## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

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### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

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## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.GCHSmuseum.com](http://www.GCHSmuseum.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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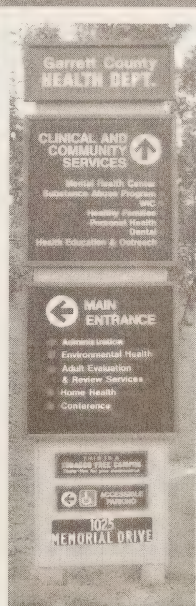
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# The Building On The Hill

by Marilyn Regentin



We know the building is there. We can see it from Memorial Drive, but many of us have never taken the short ride up the hill for a good look. The circular sign on the tower perched high is simple, but bold. Sandwiched between the two words Garrett and County at the top and bottom are the words Health Center. Another sign elsewhere at eye level gives specifics to the front of the building facing the



road. But there are signs pointing around toward what seems to be the back; then suddenly that seems like the main entrance also. Two entrances equal in importance, equally welcoming: Administration at one entrance; Clinical and Community Services at the other. Could this place be connected to the outfit some of us remember from childhood known as the Health Department? The Health Department

that was usually housed in the basement of the public library, or as in Garrett County, the Court House. Whether from Garrett County, other small towns, rural areas, or cities in America, we remember these Health Departments of other times largely as the place to get shots. But what else? And what about the big building on the hill? Does it resemble the health departments of our various childhoods? The answer is yes and no.

Rodney Glotfelty, Chief Health Officer of the Garrett County Health Department, will tell you that "the more things change, the more they stay the same." Public health services in Garrett County have come a long way since their earliest beginnings, and even since the beginning of the 21st Century. Before that time, many of the functions now housed in one well-ordered and efficiently run building were scattered in various places throughout the county. But visiting



**Miss Grace M. Jones.**

nurses of yesteryear, whether from the last century or earlier, traveled to the far reaches of the county to help citizens in need in much the same way as nurses do today. Home



**Oakland's first hospital. Building still stands at the corner of Third and Alder Streets.**





**Miss Julia Lawton, trained nurse and midwife in Garrett County at the turn of the 20th century.**

visits are still a regular part of public health services, and they range from counseling sessions with young mothers to older client interviews for those beginning rehabilitation programs after hip and knee replacements. Other Home Health Services are speech and occupational therapy, skilled nursing care, home health aides and medical social worker services.

A wide variety of health services are provided to individuals both on the hill and off, and in both physical and behavioral health. They cover a life span of needs from prenatal through geriatric care. These include family planning, prenatal care, parent training, childhood dental care, outpatient surgical procedures, addiction counseling and other kinds of treatment and health maintenance, all with an eye toward prevention. This touches on a host of lifestyle issues such as nutrition information and training, tobacco and alcohol aware-

ness. "Prevention is our most important function," says Glotfelty, "and it is where funding is cut first."

In this county and in other jurisdictions and states across the nation, the local Health Department, as the official health agency in the community, and in conjunction with the State Board of Health, must work with leaders, individuals and citizen groups to promote the health of individual clients; and at the same time, act as a regulatory agency that

safeguards the entire population of the jurisdiction. This entails staying abreast of every new disease coming down the pike, staying informed of all scientific breakthroughs, and monitoring legislation on every level that relates to public health. Every time we drink clean water, eat in sanitary restaurants, and buy food that is fresh and uncontaminated, we might want to stop and thank the Health Department, the State Board of Health of Maryland and the U.S. Public Health Service. And the next time talk of a pandemic of bird, swine or reptile flu hits the air waves, we will know that public health officials and a cadre of workers are monitoring and distilling information, seeking solutions and informing the public in responsible ways.

Recently Garrett County Health Officer Glotfelty supervised staff members in emergency mode around the clock as they dealt with a danger-



**A Public Health nurse visiting a family in Garrett County in 1928.**

ous mercury incident in Southern High School, checking out every exposure and safeguarding every student in a large student body.

Public health as a concept seems modern; and in a sense it is, but the idea of public health is routed in antiquity, as people almost from the beginning of civilization began to see the connection between disease and human waste disposal. For health reasons, early religions sought to regulate human behavior that related to diet, alcohol use and sexual activity. Clean water, a concern before Roman times, became a big issue in a land with a highly developed aqueducts. As governments developed, leaders saw that social stability, prosperity and order required a world free of disease.

In 14th century Europe the Black Death brought several theories to light about the cause of this plague. At first it was believed that the removal of dead bodies to prevent the spread of infection was the answer; but as

death tolls continued to rise, it was learned that burning parts of cities to kill rodent infestation worked better. Long before the scientific age dawned, governments were using a trial and error method to curb disease.

Earlier in the 5th and 7th centuries, governments had played a large role managing disease and controlling population by setting up leper colonies. Diagnosing and isolating citizens for the greater good of society was a strong authoritative public health position.

Throughout history new diseases have hit civilizations in waves, causing epidemics and rampant deaths. Thus, Italian boards of health early in the 15th century instituted a system of death registration, first for contagious diseases, then for all. In the 17th century John Graunt of London laid the basis for the modern use of statistics for the planning and evaluation of public health with his treatise "Natural and Political Observations



**Garrett County Health Nurse visitation—1933.**

... Made Upon the Bills of Mortality." (1662)

Historically, the challenge of maintaining an orderly society with disease control has been heightened during times of technological advances. Industrial revolutions create urbanization and the crowding of people in cities. Waste removal and sanitation on all fronts become harder and disease more prevalent. Epidemics follow.

Industrialization of the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries brought about these conditions, resulting in the spreading of a number of life-threatening diseases. Three that reached epidemic proportions over a period of years, as the country and especially urban areas grew, were cholera, smallpox and polio. It is now widely believed that vaccination programs and improved methods of halting the spread of in-

fections has helped increase the average life expectancy by 25 years. Other factors include a better understanding of cardiovascular diseases, healthier lifestyles, and continued government-sponsored research in medicine.

Europe's 300 years of colonization brought new diseases home from the tropics. Then in the late 19th century, when Louis Pasteur of France and Robert Koch of Germany did their studies in bacteriology, immunology and parasitology, public health workers could study epidemics with a new tool. A new era of rational public health was established.

If the idea of Public Health was born in the early days of civilization, the United States Public Health Service was born in the early days of this country during the administration of its second President, John Adams. On July 16, 1798, he signed into law the Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled





**Child Health Clinic in Garrett County Bond School.**

Seamen, which in time became the Public Health Service. Twenty cents was deducted from the monthly wage of each merchant seaman in Adams' bill, to build or rent hospitals and to pay for medical care provided. Other Marine Hospitals were established along the East Coast; and as trade expanded along inland waterways and the Great Lakes, marine hospitals followed. The major function of the Marine Hospital Service remained the care of sick seamen until 1878, when its functions were greatly expanded to cover the general population. The task of controlling epidemic diseases through quarantine and disinfection measures, as well as immunization programs, fell to the Marine Hospital Service and hastened its evolution into the Public Health Service which serves the whole nation today.

If disease was hard to control in

cities where overcrowding increased sanitation problems and hastened the spread of infections, rural people in remote regions such as Garrett County suffered because of lack of access to medical personnel and facilities. The first settlers who came into Garrett County arrived on horse back in 1765, the roads too rugged for wagons. The nearest doctor was four hours away across the same mountain trail to Cumberland. Housewives who came on horseback came armed with their mothers' dried herbs and homespun training. Not much is known of these pioneer women on this edge of the frontier, but we do know that they took care of all medical needs in the family.

From the earliest settlers to 1900 when Julia Lawton, practical nurse and midwife to the women of Garrett County, found her way along



**Sarah Fredlock, Garrett County Childbirth Educator, leads childbirth class in the late 1970s.**

back roads and rugged trails to treat patients in need, it seems that not much had changed. Yet. But it soon would, for a notice in the *Baltimore Sun* in 1902 states "Dr. Henry McComas has purchased a residence on Main Street in Oakland and will establish there a sanatorium." This was to become Oakland's first hospital and the place where his son, also Dr. Henry McComas, was born in 1904. This hospital did not survive too long, but the second Dr. McComas lived until 1998, the result being a whole century of McComas medical care for the county.

Between the times of the first hospital on the corner of Alder and 3rd St. (the building still stands today) and the first building of Garrett Memorial Hospital erected in 1935, surgery for Garrett Countians was performed in doctors' offices or in Cumberland. That 1935 building

stands today.

By 1935 changes in public health had occurred on the local, state and national levels, resulting in the recognition in 1934 of Maryland as the first state in the union to have all its jurisdictions set up with full-time health departments. The first full-time health department in the state had been organized in Allegany County, 1922.

Before full time health departments were set up in every jurisdiction in Maryland and in Garrett County officially, public health functions were already being carried out in a variety of ways. This was true of Julia Lawton, the midwife of 1900. It was true of the Visiting Nurses Association and it was true of Grace M. Jones. Miss Jones, as she was lovingly called, is a legendary figure in Garrett County, a legendary figure in public health and a person whose life gives us a picture of volunteerism at its very best.

As a member of the Oakland Civic Club, and under the auspices of the Civic Club, Grace Jones set up a screening clinic in orthopedics at the Court House in Oakland. The year was 1926, and there was a public health nurse, but no health department. An overflow crowd of 200 changed the venue to the law library, and soon afterwards contact was made with Dr. George Bennett of Johns Hopkins to seek help for the 30 people identified at the May clinic as needing orthopedic treatment. Almost immediately, Garrett County's first polio case occurred, and a letter was then sent from those involved in the earlier clinic to Dr. Bennett saying, "What should we do?" He said that he would train volunteers to work in a polio clinic if he could get nine volunteers. Grace Jones was the only one who volunteered, and he agreed to train her, saying that polio patients must get into training as soon as the infectious state of the disease has passed. She supplemented her training by studying *Grey's Anatomy* and became a physical therapist. She also lent her home on 2nd Street across from the library (a residence demolished in the late 1990s) as a clinic for many years. She worked a number of years without pay, never received compensation for use of her home, and eventually went to work for the Maryland State Board of Health. Miss Jones also worked with non polio patients, creating a service in the county still being talked about today. People loved her.

Visiting nurses who first worked

independently in Garrett County and then under the Health Department are in many ways the true heroes of public health. In rural areas such as this, they have, at least in the past, made decisions and performed procedures normally belonging to doctors. And they have done it for very little pay.

In the late '50s and early '60s, Dr. Eugene Bumgartner, a familiar face around the county, presented a mixed picture of the old-fashioned country doctor making house calls, knowing patients in their personal lives and a forward-thinking physician ordering tests, urging patients to quit smoking, lose weight, eat healthy meals, and seek help for depression. He seemed a little ahead of the times by drawing a connection between health and lifestyles. The 106 year-old A.D. Naylor was his role model; and he implied that with a few changes, as the decades played out, more and more people would become centenarians. He seemed to think that people would choose the healthier way.

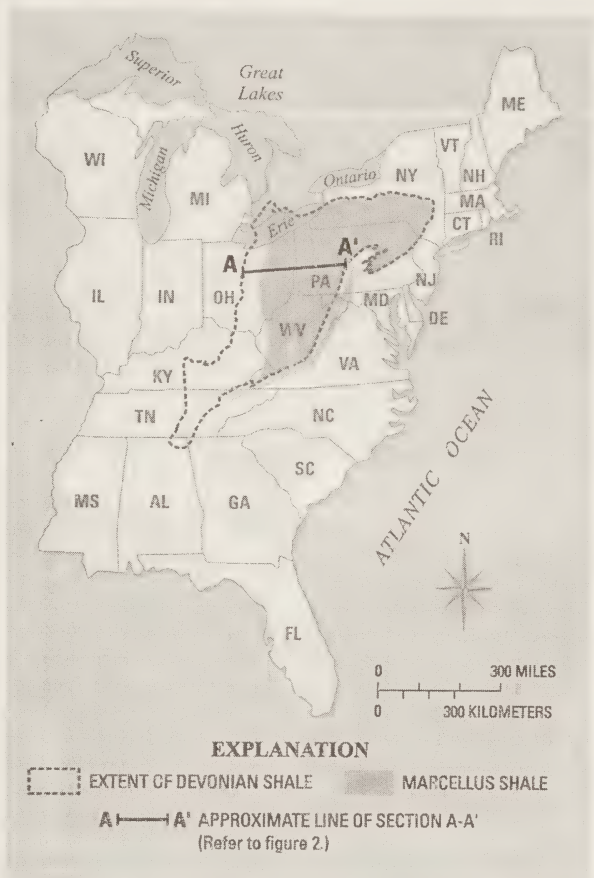
The Health Department is doing its part in teaching people to choose a healthier life. Infant mortality rates have gone down, good dental habits are taught to the young, health screening and immunizations are provided, good behavioral health is stressed, and in every way possible, the environment is made safer. How different is our life now, with that big building on the hill serving the needs of our whole society, from that of those first settlers arriving by horseback in 1765, carrying a saddle bag of dried herbs?



# The Marcellus Shale: A Problematic Windfall?

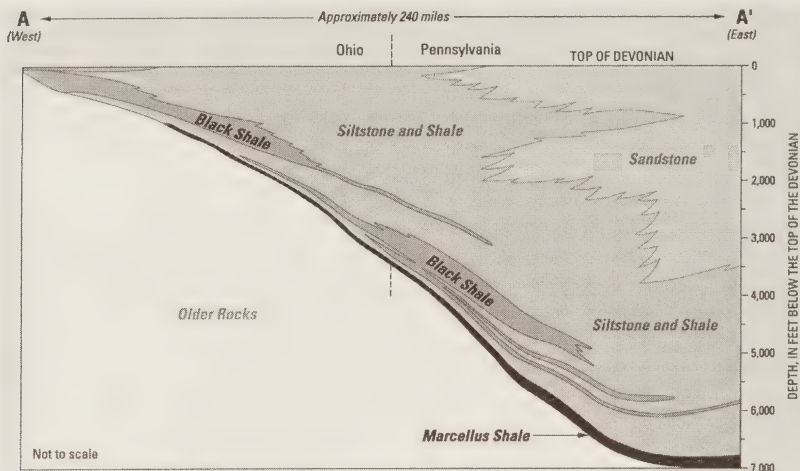
by Jack Regentin

There has been much talk lately about the Marcellus Shale and the effect of its presence in Garrett County. This is a story that began some 350 million to 400 million years ago when our county and the rest of Appalachia formed the flat to gently rolling bed of a shallow, inland sea situated in a migrating piece of the Earth's crust that is presently North America. The sea received sediments during this time period eroded from the surrounding land mass that at some point include a fine-grained mud rich in organic matter. When compressed and heated over the eons of geologic time by the weight of the thousands of feet of overlying younger sediments, largely sandstone and siltstone deposited by continued erosion, the mud became



**Distribution of the Marcellus Shale (modified from Milici and Swezey, 2006).**

the Marcellus Shale, rich in hydrocarbons, including natural gas, which is tightly held in the pores of the shale rock. The name comes from the town of Marcellus in New York state where a bit of the rock layer is visible at



**West to east line of section A-A' of Middle and Upper Devonian rocks in the Appalachian Basin. The Marcellus Shale is the lowest unit in the sequence (modified from Potter and others, 1980).**

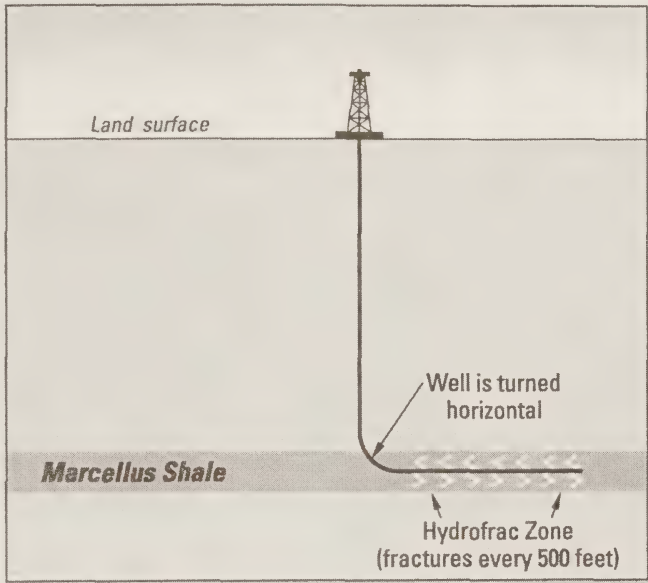
ground level. Thickest in the east, up to 900 feet, the Marcellus Shale underlies western Maryland, of course, and parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia as well as New York.

The U.S. Geological Survey reported in 2009 that 363 trillion cubic feet of natural gas could be produced from the Marcellus Shale. The United States uses about 23 trillion cubic feet per year, so Marcellus gas could supply the country's needs for about 15 years at the present rate of consumption, which is good news for a country struggling with energy problems. Low prices for natural gas and ineffective production technology in the 1990s, however, did little to create interest in Marcellus and other Devonian shale gas. (Devonian refers the period on the geologic time scale lasting from just over 400 million to 350 million years ago. The period is named for Devon, England, where

rocks of this age were first studied.)

Two factors working together have promoted the current high levels of interest in the Marcellus Shale. First, wellhead prices for natural gas rose from less than \$2.00 per thousand cubic feet in the 1980s to \$10.82 in mid 2008, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Although the price fell to about half that in early 2009 due to the nation's economic downturn, the market is still attractive. The second factor that spurred interest in the Marcellus formation is a new application of an existing drilling technology. Known as directional drilling, this technology involves steering a drill bit in a direction other than vertical. An initially vertical drillhole is slowly turned 90 degrees to penetrate long distances horizontally, sometimes over a mile, through the shale. Then using a technique called hydraulic fracturing, or

“hydrofrac,” a solution of water, sand, and other materials is blasted under high pressure into the well to fracture the shale, releasing the gas from the rock pores and opening up a large number of pathways for it to move to the well and be recovered.



**Combination of directional drilling and hydraulic fracturing technology used for gas production from the Marcellus Shale in the Appalachian Basin (modified from <http://geology.com/articles/marcellus-shale.shtml>).**

A substantial amount of water is required for drilling into the shale, first to create the circulating mud that cools the drill bit and carries away the rock cuttings, and then for the hydrofracking itself. And then these liquids, including any brines picked up from the rock, must be recovered, treated, and disposed of properly, which is the downside of gas production from the Marcellus Shale. Three important water-resource concerns related to shale gas production are:

- supplying water for well construction without impacting local water resources,
- avoiding degradation of small watersheds and streams as substantial amounts of heavy equipment and supplies are moved around on

rural roads, and

- determining the proper methods for the safe disposal of the large quantities of potentially contaminated fluids recovered from the wells.

Drilling itself uses large amounts of water, and the hydraulic fracturing that follows may require up to three million gallons per treatment. Regional and local water managers are concerned where such large amounts of water will come from and what the consequences might be for local water supplies. Under drought conditions or in areas with already stressed water supplies, obtaining the millions of gallons needed for a shale gas well could be problematic. And drillers could face substantial transportation costs



if water had to be trucked in over great distances.

Large hydro-frac treatments often require moving large amounts of equipment, vehicles, and supplies into remote areas. Transporting all of this over rural Garrett County roads could potentially cause erosion and threaten local wa-

tersheds with sediment. Drill pad and pipeline construction could cause similar problems. Of equal concern is the possibility of spills or leaks into nearby streams, rivers, and lakes as fluids and chemical additives are transported and handled. In areas where Marcellus gas production is under way, nearby southwestern Pennsylvania, for example, complaints of road damage and traffic disruption caused by heavy drilling equipment have been received. And there have been reports of contaminated and foul-smelling drinking water from the Monongahela River. Recovered fracking water has been found to be up to five times saltier than sea water.

For gas to flow out of the shale, nearly all of the fluids injected into the well during the hydrofrac treatment must be recovered and disposed of. In addition to the problem of dealing with large bulk volumes of liquid waste, contaminants in the water may



**A hydraulic fracturing stimulation in 2007 on a Marcellus Shale gas well showing the amount of equipment needed.**

complicate wastewater treatment. Hydrofrac fluids are often treated with proprietary chemicals, and the potential problems they might pose for local wastewater treatment are unclear. Some states have placed moratoriums on drilling until these issues are resolved.

Natural gas is an abundant domestic energy resource that burns cleanly and emits the lowest amount of carbon dioxide per calorie of any fossil fuel. The Marcellus Shale and other natural gas resources in the country are important components of a national energy program that seeks both greater energy independence and greener sources of energy. Marcellus gas development has begun in surrounding states, and application has been made to begin drilling in the Finzel area. No permits have been awarded, however, and will probably be delayed until concerns over the environment are put to rest.

# Pop-Pop's Camp Experiences During the Depression

by Mary Beth Sutherlin

*Editor's note: This article, done as an assignment for an English class while a student at Woodson High School, Fairfax, Va., in 2003, is the result of an interview the author did with her grandfather about his experiences at the CCC Camp at Swallow Falls in 1935-36. Pop-Pop never returned to Garrett County as he wished; he died a short time ago. The author gained "... a lot of respect for him." through the interview and came to "...realize how lucky I am as well." She lives in Atlanta, Ga. The photos belong to the author's mother, Ruth (Moran) Sutherlin, so the person identified as "Dad" is Pop-Pop.*

As I sat down at the kitchen table with my grandpa, Vernon Moran, I had intentions of interviewing him about his high school years. I had nothing specific in mind to ask him about from this time in his life, however. As the interview progressed, I soon realized that there was an entire experience in Pop-Pop's life that I had been unaware of until the evening of the inter-



Pop-Pop (bottom) and a friend at the CCC Camp.



**This photo was taken when Pop-Pop first arrived at the CCC camp in July, 1935.**

view. Growing up in a household of six children in Baltimore, Maryland, was extremely rough during the years of the Great Depression. I found out that my grandpa did not get the chance to finish high school because he was needed to work to help support his large family. After the ninth grade, he had jobs such as delivering newspapers, breaking coal, and putting down hardwood floors, and nearly all of his earnings went to his family to buy necessities.

In the summer of 1935, at the height of the depression, Pop-Pop was eighteen. He left home at this time with his twenty-two year old brother and joined the Civilian Conservation Corps, or CCC for short. When I asked him why he had to go there, he responded, "What else could I do? I couldn't find any other work." The camp was located high in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Swallow Falls, Maryland, in Garrett County. Built about eight or ten miles outside the

town of Oakland, the camp was "a beautiful place," near the waterfalls of spring water with a beautiful view of the mountain peaks. The CCC had locations all over the country and was formed to give jobs to young men living during the Depression, or in other words, to get them off the street. The government ran the camp, and National Guard captains were in charge on site.

The strenuous work, which the young men did to economically help themselves and their families, in turn helped the residents of the rugged homes near the camp. Pop-Pop recalled with a sympathetic tone, "I don't know how those people up there lived. Before we went to work, they had horrible living conditions." One job my grandpa and his fellow workers had was blasting rock out of the mountains with dynamite. While doing this, Pop-Pop remembers that rattlesnakes would slither out from under the rocks all the time! The rocks





**The tents at the CCC camp; the barracks are in the background.**

were broken up into tiny pieces that were used to make roads in areas that had previously been wooded. He told me that there was a local man that acted like a teacher to the workers by showing them how to do the jobs well and helping them out.

The boys also did “standard improvement,” including fighting forest fires, clearing the woods out after the fires, and doing other small jobs to help the locals. During the winter, the CCC boys helped out by keeping the newly built roads clear of snow. “The camp owned a big bulldozer that one guy would go out and operate in below zero temperatures!” For all this labor, each person received a meager thirty dollars a month, twenty-five of which my grandpa sent home to his family.

During one of the more severe forest fires that the camp members were assigned to put out, a scary

incident happened to my grandfather. He was under a tree, aiming his “backpack hose” at a huge flame when a gust of wind sent the fire blazing his way. When he tried to run back to get away, he found his shirt caught on a low tree limb. He pulled furiously until the shirt finally ripped, and he got away just in time. As soon as he stepped back, the tree with the limb that he had been stuck to went up in flames! I was stunned that they required the underpaid camp workers to perform dangerous jobs that put them at such high risk!

I asked about where they stayed, and Pop-Pop told me that when he first arrived at the camp in July, the only solid building was a huge mess hall. At this time, they stayed in large tents that slept four to six people. Pop-Pop said these were not too uncomfortable during the summer because it was cool at night. Later, barracks were

built that each held a good number of people. They all liked the barracks better than the tents. Pop-Pop then explained to me that their uniforms were salvaged from World War I. He remembered with a smile, "The pants were really narrow at the bottom. I used to get paid to take army blankets and widen the pants for people." After a few months, he said the uniforms were replaced with new ones, and work clothes like jeans (he called them "dungarees") and old shirts were given to them. They only had to bring their own clothes if they wanted to wear them into town, but some people didn't even have decent clothes of their own and relied completely on the supplied items. Pop-Pop brought a few sets of nice clothes and a suit to wear on the weekends and breaks when he and his friends would go into Oakland for recreation.

When not working at the camp, the young men still kept active! They organized teams to play baseball, played horseshoes, and swam in the spring water at Swallow Falls, which Pop-Pop said was always ice cold. At the falls, he said they had "water-slides," which were simply rocks they would sit on and slide down; they made the most out of what they had. They always managed to have a good time, no matter what they were doing. He said they got a good number of breaks on the job, and that they "didn't have to kill themselves." Pop-Pop made a lot of friends, mainly guys from Virginia and West Virginia. The boys weren't supposed to have cars, but many of their families lived in

Baltimore, which was too far to drive the camp truck, and train fare to the city was too expensive. He explained that one of his friends had a car hidden outside of camp that they would drive to Baltimore when they could. Three or four of them would pitch in for gas, and when they returned to camp, they would stash the car again.

My grandpa loved going into Oakland for the social events. (Another reason my grandpa liked Oakland was because when he went to town, he would sometimes go on dates with the town sheriff's daughter.) He told me about one night when the boys from camp were in town for a dance at a small motel and the truck that was going to transport him and the others back to camp left without him! As his mouth shaped into a childish grin, he told me, "I tried to sleep in the lobby, but the lady there kicked me out. I had to walk the eight or ten miles back to camp at 1:30 or 2 AM!"

The question I asked Pop-Pop about his favorite memories from camp also brought to mind one winter when he and some friends had been assigned to drive the camp truck to Oakland for food and supplies. "I remember one time when a freak snowstorm hit the town. It was so bad, the truck got stuck and wouldn't budge," he said. My grandpa and his friends had already piled all the supplies in the truck bed when they realized it was not going anywhere. They had to get out and try to push the truck out of the snowdrift, but to no avail; they all had to stay in the motel that night. When the truck was still immovable

# Certificate of Discharge

## from

## Civilian Conservation Corps

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT \* Vernon Moran CC-362361 A MEMBER OF THE  
 CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS, WHO WAS ENROLLED April 22, 1935 AT  
(Date)  
Port George G. Meade, Maryland. IS HEREBY DISCHARGED THEREFROM, BY REASON  
Honorably  
Par. 28a, W.D.R., Relief of Unemployment, CCC, 5/15/35, To accept other employ-  
ment, & SO # 25, Camp S-51-Md., Deer Park, Maryland. 4/6/36  
 SAID Vernon Moran WAS BORN IN Baltimore  
 IN THE STATE OF Maryland. WHEN ENROLLED HE WAS 19 YEARS  
 OF AGE AND BY OCCUPATION A Laborer HE HAD Brown EYES,  
Black HAIR, Ruddy COMPLEXION, AND WAS 5 FEET  
11 INCHES IN HEIGHT. HIS COLOR WAS White  
 GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AT Camp S-51-Md. THIS 6th DAY  
 OF April ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND Thirty Six

*August F. Schinmack*  
AUGUST F. SCHINMACK, Captain Inf.-Res.  
(Name) (Title)

C.C.C. Form No. 9  
 April 6, 1933

\*Insert name as "John J. Doe".  
 \*\*Give reason for discharge.

E-10171

the next morning, they ended up having to walk back to camp with their arms full of provisions for camp. Pop-Pop remembers being frostbitten and having a sore back after that long day.

A dependable job was required in order to leave the CCC, so the leaders would be assured that the young men would have a way to make a living once on their own. My grandpa got a job working with his father on hard-

wood floors after one year and nine months of working at the camp. Finally, I asked Pop-Pop about his least favorite part of CCC. He replied, "I liked it all. We really had a lot of fun up there, even though we didn't have a lot of money. I don't think I had a least favorite part, to tell you the truth." Throughout the time my grandpa was at the Civilian Conservation Corps, he made lasting friendships and had



many memorable experiences. All the while, he was keeping in shape and helping out the inhabitants of the mountain area as well as his own family. I admire Pop-Pop for what he did to help his family and I realize that I should not take for granted the things I have. Now at age seventeen, leaving home for almost two years to constantly work for very little pay seems unimaginable to me, yet it was a reality for my grandpa. Pop-Pop said he would love to go back someday to see how the area around Swallow Falls has changed, since he has not been there in over thirty years.

From completing this interview and project about my grandpa, I learned numerous interesting facts that I had earlier been unaware of. Before I sat down and talked with my grandpa about his teenage years, I had just assumed that he had finished high school and gone to college like most kids do today. I already knew that he grew up in the years of the Great Depression, but I had no idea how much of an impact this had on his family. I especially did not think that the Depression would cause anyone to not be able to finish high school!

In addition to learning more about my grandfather's late teenage years by doing this project, I gained a lot of respect for him. I respect the fact that my grandpa was willing to leave home and work hard to help his family survive. The Civilian Conservation Corps seemed like an amazing experience, much like an Appalachian Service Project I did last summer with my church.

That trip is a memory I will carry throughout my life, just like Pop-Pop has with his CCC memories. Even though my grandpa participated in the camp over seventy years ago, he remembers it like it was yesterday. An experience really has to be prominent to be remembered for so long.

Finding out all this new information about my grandfather during the Depression made me realize how lucky I am as well. I have the opportunity to finish high school, go to college, and depend on my parents until I am on my own; my grandpa had none of these. Pop-Pop showed an amazing amount of strength and integrity when he went to the CCC camp to help his family. He could think about his own interests very little during this time, since he sent 5/6 of the money he earned home to support his family. I do not think I could survive such an experience, neither physically nor mentally. Even though the work was rough at times, Pop-Pop never gave up because he knew it was what he had to do.

I am glad I focused in on Pop-Pop's time at the Civilian Conservation Corps for this project because I now have new insight into his life. I learned not to take all the amenities I have for granted and to appreciate the affluent area we live in. Pop-Pop's family went through some hard times during the Depression, but with his help, they all made it through, and I think that it was very chivalrous of my grandfather to do as much as he did.

# Glamorgan



Glamorgan, atop a hill overlooking the intersection of Rt. 135 and Sand Flat Road/Main St. in Deer Park, as it originally looked.



The back side of the Glamorgan house as it originally looked.

"Glamorgan" is one of the largest and most Victorian of all the summer homes in Deer Park. It was built in

1888, by Mr. John W. Williams of Philadelphia. Gothic in style, with its high pointed gables, tall chimneys,



Wishing You a Jolly Christmas  
and a  
New Year filled with Happiness

and towering spire, it reminds one, on first approaching, of an old castle of the Middle Ages.

"Glamorgan" is a three-story structure containing twenty rooms and six baths. The plumbing was said to have been so complicated that there

was a framed plan made for it. The reception hall has a grand staircase that leads from the first to the second floor. This floor has a balcony all around it from which is located nine bedrooms. There are eight fireplaces in the house, with five of them located on the first





## GLAMORGAN—FOR SALE

or For Rent for six months; simply furnished, but in perfect order. It is a country seat of about 185 acres in the Alleghenies, 2,500 feet above tidewater, at Deer Park, Md. There are eleven rooms, all gas-lighted, and five bathrooms supplied with water from springs rising within the place, garden planted, ice-house full, fuel, hay and milk—in a word, all the conveniences of a gentleman's summer residence, while a 2½-mile drive through its woods, absence of mosquito nuisance, and invariably cool nights, contribute to make an ideal home for immediate occupancy.

**FOR PARTICULARS, APPLY TO OWNER**

P. O. BOX 2071, PHILADELPHIA

Post WWI for sale ad.



As it appeared in 1994.

floor, one each in the reception hall, the parlor, library, dining room and kitchen. The Williams family often stayed in the house until December, so it was winterized when it was built.

Mr. Williams, his wife, and two daughters always spent the summer season here. After his death it became the property of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Grimes. In 1934, the property was purchased by Commodore and Mrs. D. W. Loomis of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and today belongs to their son, Donald Loomis, and his family.

## *GCHS Receives Major Artifact Donations from Descendents of Meshach Browning*



Blouse and cape of Lizzie Browning Jamison, granddaughter of Meshach, worn at Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in November 1863. Gift of Robert and Sally Jamison of Slippery Rock, PA.

Marble-top table (1866) with silver cake basket and teapot from the home of Margaret Ellen Casteel Browning, daughter-in-law, and Carrie Lelia Browning Gloffelty, granddaughter of Meshach. Gift of Joy Klingman of Germantown, MD





# *Garrett County Historical Society First Recipient Of Newly Established Asa McCain "Spirit Of Oakland" Award*



**Former Mayor Asa McCain, Mayor and GOBA President Peggy Jamison, Historical Society Members Terry Helbig and John Rathgeb.**

McCain during his tenure as Mayor of Oakland and who has given back in some fashion of their time and talents to help sustain and nurture those things that make Oakland "A Great Small Town." Oakland Mayor and GOBA President Peggy Jamison presented the award to Historical Society Board Members

At the Greater Oakland Business Association/Oakland Main Street June meeting, the Garrett County Historical Society was honored as the first recipient of the Asa McCain "Spirit of Oakland" Award. The award was established by GOBA Main Street last year and will be awarded periodically to an individual, business or group who embodies the vision created and sustained by Asa

Terry Helbig and John Rathgeb with former Mayor Asa McCain looking on.

Each year the GOBA members nominate potential recipients, and one individual, business or group is selected from the nominees by a membership vote.

The Garrett County Historical Society was nominated because of its ongoing contributions to the Town of



Oakland including moving its museum from Center Street (now Our Town Theatre) to the Professional Building on Second Street in the 1990s because they needed more room for displays and artifacts. They have made steady improvements to the building and grounds with the Deer Park Hotel facade, Deer Park Hotel gazebo, Deer Park Hotel carbide cave, and the addition of the cupola. The museum is open year-round and welcomes over

7,000 visitors each year. Their latest project is the much publicized 10,000 square foot Transportation Museum to be completed by the end of the year. The museum opens for special downtown events during Christmas and Winterfest. The Historical Society headed by President Robert Boal and a dedicated group of officers, directors, curators, and volunteers is a integral part of the Greater Oakland Business Association.

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## *Do You Know ...*

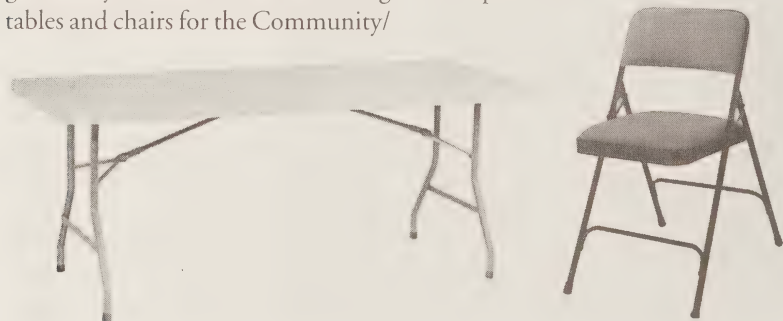
... that there was once an obituary published in Garrett County on the death of a newspaper? On December 17, 1953, in the final issue of *The Mountain Democrat*, the 75-year-old newspaper was mourned in a tongue-in-cheek obituary that ended with these final words, "Interment will be in the Democrat's own morgue." It was written by T.O. and Evaline Deffinbaugh, the paper's owners.

---

## *Mission Accomplished!*

The GCHS wishes to thank its many members and friends who generously donated all needed folding tables and chairs for the Community/

Media Room on the second floor of the new Garrett County Museum of Transportation.



# *The Leo Beachy Photographic Archive Now on GCHS Web Site*



Images of the nearly 2,800 Leo Beachy glass negatives taken from 1905 through 1927 are now available for viewing through the GCHS Web site, GCHSMuseum.com. These wonderful images were saved by his niece, Maxine Broadwater, and were professionally developed by Chris Schwer through funds donated by the Howard and Audrey Naylor Family Trust.



# *Fair Week—1930s Style*

*by John A. Grant*



**The carnival was in the flat land beside Liberty Street west of Oakland.**

Back in the 1930s it seemed as if the first two months of Fall were a time of parades. It would begin with the parade for the Labor Day Picnic followed by the Garrett County Fair parades. Quite often our family would drive to Elkins for the Forest Festival parade, and the season would end with the Halloween Parade and associated activities. Of all the parades, the one during Garrett County Fair week is the one I remember best.

When it first began, the Garrett County Fair was held in the vacant lot beside Third Street in Oakland next to the Naylor Building. During the late 1920s it was moved to the Bradley Manor property along Liberty Street on the western side of Oakland. The Fair itself usually began on a Tuesday in one of the latter weeks of September.

Part of the Fair program was a School Children's parade on Wednesday of Fair Week. It must have been the anticipation of a school holiday in the middle of the week that made the parade so memorable for me.

Students from Oakland, Mtn. Lake Park and Crellin participated in the parade with students from small schools in the area. As I recall, most of the students would gather in the streets near the Center Street School in Oakland. About 10 or 10:30 in the morning the parade would begin: students, along with floats, going through downtown Oakland and out Liberty Street to the Fair Grounds. Music for the parade would be furnished by the Oakland Boys Band and the Crellin Band; for a number of years the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps would also be in the pa-



rade. Sometimes, a band would be furnished by the carnival at the Fair Grounds.

When we got to the Fair Grounds, the carnival associated with the Fair would be going with all the "razzle-dazzle" that the traveling shows could provide. The carnival with shows and rides was usually spread across the Fair Grounds, with

the tent shows along the main road slightly away from the rides.

Rides usually cost 10 cents and it seemed they were always too short; I guess the operators ran them on the minimum time so they could make more money. One ride in particular that I remember was the Whip. It was one in which the seats would slowly move along a track and then suddenly swing around in a semi-circle. Me, I had to find out the hard way that two rides in succession was my limit; anything more and I got real "queasy."

There were always several food stands, but the one I really remember was run by Hinebaugh's Restaurant. In my imagination I can still remember the smell of hot dogs and hamburgers cooking.

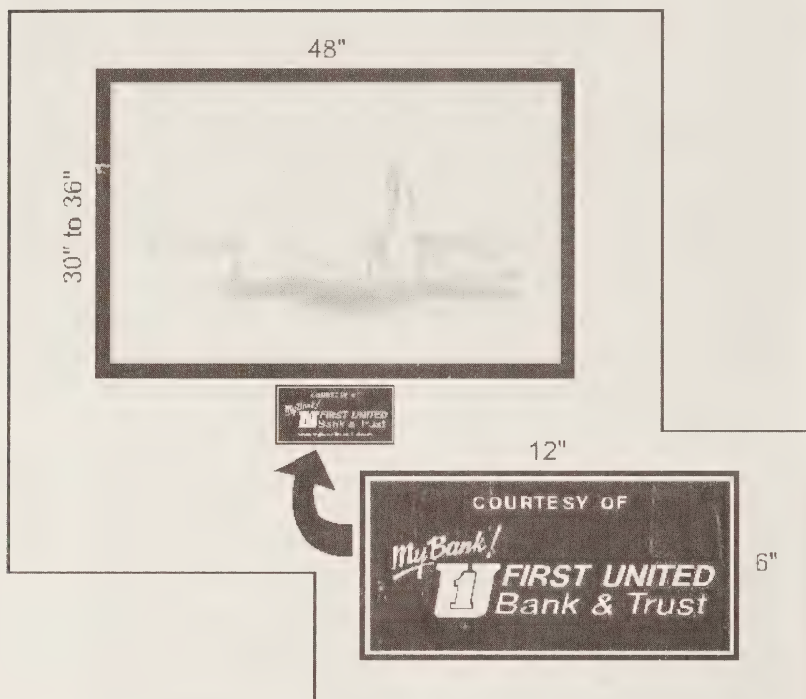
It seemed on the afternoon of that day there was always a spectacular carnival act; it would take place just



**The school children would gather in the street around the Center Street School in Oakland.**

before the school buses arrived to pick up the school children. At that time the Bradley Manor mansion was still standing, and it was used to exhibit certain agriculture displays. It was a three story house on a hill several hundred feet from the flat carnival grounds and it had a cupola on top. A long metal cable would be attached to the cupola with the other end anchored in the carnival grounds. The spectacular act would be a trapeze performer who would ride down the long metal cable and be caught in a net by four or five carnival "roustabouts" at the end. One year, the trapeze performer came down the cable holding on to a leather strap by her teeth. Once the act was done, local school children would begin to wander back into Oakland; the School Children's Parade and school holiday at the Fair was over until next year.

# *A Deep Creek Lake Art And Photo Gallery*



## **"A MAJOR NEED FOR THE NEW MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION"**

Now that the Garrett County Historical Society has acquired "Flying Scot # 4" for the second floor display area for the new museum, the society wishes to ask local and Deep Creek businesses (as well as interested individuals) to consider donating enlarged copies of photos of the lake area from its beginning in 1923 to the present. Plaques/credits (and tax write-offs) will be provided

for all enlarged photos given. The museum has many wonderful photos to choose from in its collection and it is suggested that any of these enlarged photos be donated "in memory of/in honor of" or just by those businesses or individuals interested in helping with this important project. The GCHS estimates that about half of all 7,000 visitors to the museum each year are visiting at Deep Creek Lake.

The historical society intends to work with Domenick Signs of Deer

Park for the creation of these high quality enlarged photographs. It is estimated that from 20 to 26 large size, framed photos could be used for the museum gallery walls and that from 54 to 72 medium size unframed photos could be used for placement on the folding screens to be placed around the gallery perimeter.

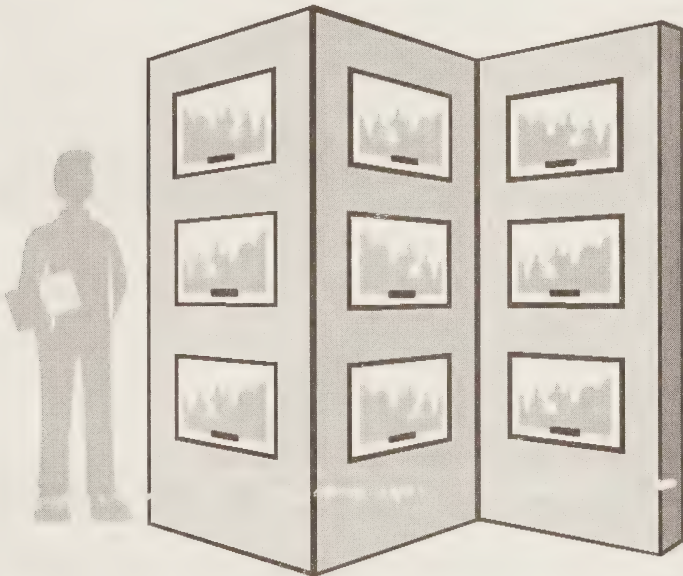
Through a special arrangement with Domenick Signs, cost for the enlargements will be as follows:

A. LARGE SIZE, FRAMED PHOTOGRAPHS: a 36" by 48" reproduced print on plastic backing

with painted Cedar Frame, \$265, with a memorial /sponsor plaque being an additional \$15.

B. MEDIUM SIZE, WHITE-BORDERED PHOTOGRAPHS: an 18" by 24" reproduced print on plastic backing, \$95, with memorial/sponsorship on the bottom margin.

Any individual or business interested in helping to create the Deep Creek Gallery is asked to call the museum at 301-334-3226 to make arrangements with the curators for the choosing and ordering of the donated photographs.



#### **THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY STILL NEEDS HELP FROM OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

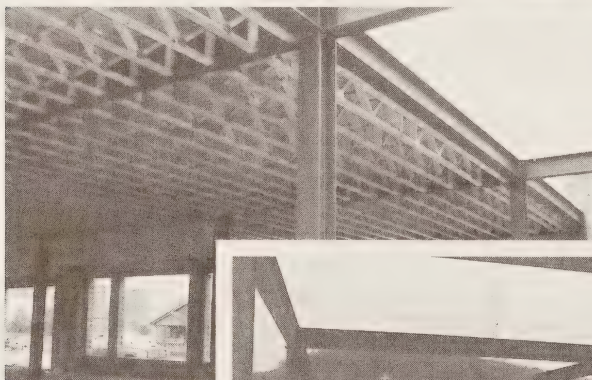
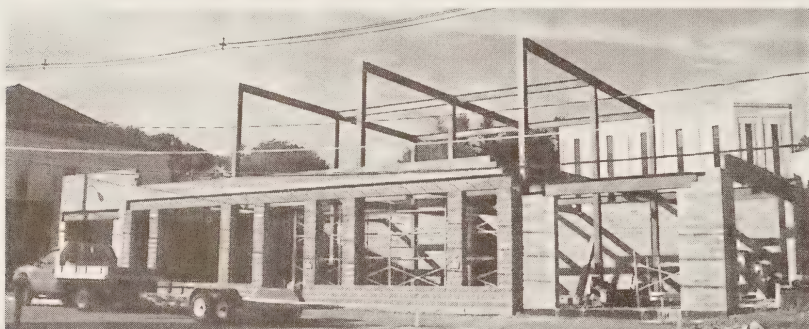
A committee of active GCHS members is beginning to search the museum's files for at least 100 quality photos of the Deep Creek Lake area from 1923 to the present. We urgently need donations to enlarge and frame these for the Deep Creek Gallery on the second floor of the new Garrett County Transportation Museum.



# *New Museum of Transportation to be Under Roof by Winter*

"Steady progress is being made toward having the new Garrett County Museum of Transportation under roof before the first blasts of winter," says Steve Gnegy of Gnegy Construction.

This wonderful addition to the GCHS museum/park complex was graciously donated by the Howard and Audrey Naylor Family Trust. Completion is scheduled for early Spring.



## *Memorials*

**Clifford Savage**

Eleanor Callis  
Martha DeBerry  
Diane Thayer  
Bob and Leanna Boal  
Tom and Juanita Browning  
Troy and Frances Gnegy  
Edith Browning  
George J. Ferguson  
Renee Savage

**Delores (Paugh) Wilt**

Wilt Wayne and Judy Wilt

**Rev. Gail Hixon**

Bob and Leanna Boal

**Robert Anderson**

Martha DeBerry

**Lewis R. Jones**

Audra C. Hansen

**E. Ray Jones**

Audra C. Hansen

**Maud B. Jones**

Audra C. Hansen

**Wilber C. Jones**

Audra C. Hansen

## *Honorariums*

**Kathryn Gonder**

Martha DeBerry

**Mary Virginia Jones**

Audra C. Hansen

**The Loars of Garrett, Preston  
and Monongalia Counties**

Mary Ann Miller

## *Donations*

Bud Peed

Ross and Donna Johnson

Wayne and Judy Wilt

Ihor and Sandra Zakaluzny

Gary R. Ruddell

Garrett County

Commissioners

## *Web Site Donation*

Grantsville Museum

# *Donations for Transportation Museum*

June 1, 2010 - August 17, 2010

**Walter Weir Pollard III**

Monetary donation in memory of Eleanor and Walter Pollard

Monetary donation in memory of Hildy and Charlie Rich

**Ihor and Sandra Zakaluzny**

Monetary donation

**Cliff DeWitt**

1 chair

**Margaret Germain**

3 chairs

**Fred and Vera Tichnell**

4 chairs and 1 chair cart

**Frederick and Mary Warther**

20 chairs

**Barbara Bentsen**

2 chairs

**Stan and Lynn Grimm**

1 chair in honor of Bob Boal

1 chair in honor of Leanna Boal

**Martha DeBerry**

1 chair in memory of Carol Davis

**Carol and Bob Shiffy**

1 chair in memory of Lillian Jordan

1 chair in memory of Jack and Doris Schroth

**Philip Dwight Wonderly**

1 chair in memory of Earl and Gustava Wonderly

**Eunice Wonderly Stackhouse**

1 chair in memory of Earl and Gustava Wonderly

**Jerry Moyer**

1 chair in memory of Earl and Leona Moyer



**Delores Moyer**

1 chair in memory of Hub and Nellie Swartzentruber

**Nancy Helbig**

1 chair in honor of DeCorsey Bolden

**Connie Williams Tricket**

1 chair in memory of Margaret E. Williams

1 chair in memory of John S. Williams

1 chair in honor of Joyce Ann Friend

1 chair in honor of James Dale Williams

**Richard Harris**

5 chairs in memory of Louise Harris

**Ronn E. Friend**

1 chair in memory of Ralph Taft Friend

1 chair in memory of Susan Edna Friend

1 chair in memory of Lawrence Taft Friend

1 chair in memory of LeRoy Edwin Friend

1 chair in memory of Lyda Emma Wolf

1 chair in memory of Maurice Aaron Wolf

1 chair in memory of Josephine M. Wolf

**James and Shirley Munford****E. L. and Barbara Kemp****Daniel and Carol Muss****Franklin and Joan Wolfe****Thomas and Sharon Scannell**

1 picture in honor of the 50th anniversary of Barbara and  
Roger Levin

**Charles R. Kershner**

1 chair in memory of Jane Reckard

**Ralph Totten**

1 chair in memory of Ezekiel and Rachel Totten

1 chair in memory of James and Rebecca Totten

1 chair in memory of Ezekiel and Ann Totten

**Esther Benedict**

1 chair in memory of Quincy A. Murphy

1 chair in memory of Robert W. Murphy

# Oakland Accessions

February 26, 2010 — May 24, 2010

Book: *Sincell, Naylor,*

*Bolden—Farms North of Oakland*.....*gift of Ray McRobie*

Old store ledger from Accident Store,

owned by John Englehart.....*gift of Marlene Glass*

Notebook of narratives and photos pertaining to

CCC camp experiences at Swallow Falls, based on

interviews with Vernon Charles Moran compiled

by Mary Beth Sutherlin .....*gift of Ruth Moran Sutherlin*

Carrier for unloading and moving hay, grain funnel,

furnace tool, and metal picnic chest .....*gift of Lowell L. Leitzel*

Wall-mount corn grinder, 1846.....*gift of Stan and Lynn Grimm*

Large brass sleigh bell, small brass sleigh bell, 1930s Easter bonnet

with hatbox, walnut stand with American flag, and

Gregg Shorthand book (1929) ..... *gift of Paul and Alice Eary*

Stamp album: *Presidents of the United States*, published by American

Oil Company .....*gift of George Ferguson*

Notebook covering 50th Anniversary of the

Korean War .....*gift of Carl Rebele*

Cookbook pamphlets: "Family Favorites to Make Again,"

"Successful Baking," "All Your Baking Can Be Perfect," and

"Watkins Cookbook"; small blackboard, small music stand,

video tape: "Evolution of the Automobile and its Effects on Our

Society"; fireplace tongs .....*gift of Paul and Alice Eary*

Items belonging to Stephen and Margaret Ellen (Casteel) Browning:

walnut-based oval marble-top table purchased in 1866,

stoneware handled crock with freehand tulips, silver-plated

bride's basket, leather daguerreotype case, child's toy blue marble,

blue spongeware soup bowl, blue ceramic footed bowl from

Belgium, pair of Victorian enameled glass lemonade tumblers,

Victorian patterned glass pedestal cake stand, Victorian silver-plated castor set, Victorian teapot, silver-plated Victorian ladle, wooden silver chest with set of Victorian flatware, carnival glass bon-bon bowl, Victorian pen, file of Browning—Casteel information ..... *gift of Joy R. Klingaman*

Items belong to Joseph & Carrie Lelia (Browning) Glotfelty: beveled glass hall mirror, set of five pattern-glass wineglasses (1898), child's flat iron and trivet, framed photo of Joseph Glotfelty and Lee Cornwell in Montana, photo of Carrie Lelia Browning (age 24) ..... *gift of Joy R. Klingaman*

Photographs: Fishing camp on Cheat River (Browning family), Browning fiddlers, Eleanor Glotfelty and Margaret Glotfelty on ponies, Eleanor Elizabeth Glotfelty ..... *gift of Joy R. Klingaman*

Chalk holder used to draw musical staff on blackboard ..... *gift of Paul and Alice Eary*

Light fixture from Sturgiss Pharmacy ..... *gift of Leo McBee*

Salt and pepper shakers from the William James Hotel ..... *gift of Richard DeWitt*

Souvenir plate of Mtn. Lake Park (1912), scrapbook of fancy penmanship (1883), booklet on Willard Hawkins, booklet on 50th Reunion of Oakland High School Class of 1941, booklet: "Know Your School" (1975) ..... *Lawrence Sherwood*

Replica of Wright Brothers airplane in Plexiglas case ..... *gift of Jim Evans*

Victorian belt buckle, inkwell with quill pen, brass candle holder ..... *gift of Bob and Leanna Boal*

Information on Totten family ..... *gift of Ralph A. Totten*

Antique golf club that belonged to Mike Boyle, picture of Mike Boyle and Margaret McEntee Boyle, photo of Jim Treacy and family ..... *Lieutenant Colonel William O. Treacy*

Two books that belonged to Lenuel F. Friend: *Nation and State* and *Civil Government* ..... *gift of Leo McBee*



*Book of Prayers for Everybody and All Occasions*(circa 1907) ..... *gift of John D. Watkins**Mug from 50th Reunion, Oakland High School,**Class of 1941 ..... gift of Wilda Sanders**Small account notebook from guest house at**Crook Crest ..... gift of Ellie Slagle**Information on Saucer family ..... gift of George Ferguson**Photographs, maps, and news clippings from the Bloomington**Dam project; map of Oakland (1959), map of Garrett County**(1958), advertising roadmap of Garrett County, Geological**Atlas – Piedmont Folio (1896), map on cloth of early military**lots, photos from Oakland High School class of 1943**reunions, list and supplemental list of graduating classes from**Oakland High School (1908 to 1952), photograph of Silver**Knob school (1909), postcards: The Cove, and Deep Creek**Lake, photographs of Ridder's Radio and Electric Company,**photograph of four Ridder children used on an advertising**calendar, photographs of Navy V-12 Unit reunions at Mt. Saint**Mary's College ..... gift of Kathy Ridder**Royal Blue "G" scale electric train set .... gift of Brian and Crystal Boal**Labels for Altamont Spring Water ..... gift of James and Betty Howard**Pair of small brass vases made in Italy, burnishing tool, fireplace**tongs, old hair crimping/curling irons..... gift of Terri Shaffer**Embroidered doily, white with pink flowers, made by**Carrie (Harvey) Gauer in 1985 ..... gift of Ida Durban**Two topographic maps: Gorman Quadrangle (1950) and Bittinger**Quadrangle (1949) ..... gift of Mary Foley**Newspaper clipping from The Republican**on Miss Julia Lawton ..... gift of Julia Ann Aronhalt Bennett*

# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or  
joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only  
one copy of each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

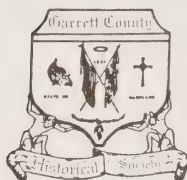
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

# Periodical



## *GCHS Plans Fundraising Concert At St. Matthew's*

*(Plus interior tours of new  
Garrett County Museum of Transportation)*

On Saturday evening, October 16, the GCHS will open its new (and under construction) Museum of Transportation for public viewing from 6 until 6:45 PM with Museum Committee members present to answer questions about the new museum and to supply details regarding its function and its completion.

Following this special tour, a casual musical event will follow in the Sanctuary of the historic St.

Matthew's Church next door to the new museum. The 7 to 8:00 pm concert will be performed by Muriel and Mark Franc and will feature WWII love songs, Big Band tunes and selections from Broadway shows. A "free will" offering will be taken at intermission to benefit the furnishing of this wonderful new addition to the GCHS Museum Complex. The new museum building is a gift to the people of Garrett County and its neighbors from the Howard and Audrey Naylor Family Trust through the Community Trust Foundation.





# THE Glades Star

(USPS 219-080) Quarterly

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— Published by —

THE GARRETT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 11, NO. 20

OAKLAND, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 2010



MY FIRST BEAR-FIGHT Page 20

An image of Meshach Browning's first bear fight from *Forty-Four Years of the Life of a Hunter* published in 1859.

## Garrett County Historical Society

*Founded in 1941*

### OFFICERS 2010-2011

President .....	Robert Boal
1st Vice President .....	James Ashby
2nd Vice President .....	Paul Shogren
Treasurer .....	Joanne Ashby
Secretary .....	Alice Eary
Asst. Sec'y. ....	Edith Brock
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Curator .....	Eleanor Callis
Assistant Curator .....	Brenda Gnegy
Building Manager .....	Junior Ferguson
Technology Coordinator..	Hannah Gnegy

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Clifford DeWitt, John Grant,
Maxine Broadwater,
Matthew Stieringer, Jerry Moyer,
and John Rathgeb

### EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor .....	Jack Regentin
Cir. Manager .....	Joseph Connors

### THE SOCIETY'S OBJECT

*The purpose of this Society shall be to discover, secure and preserve whatever relates to the history of the area, and to disseminate knowledge of our local history among our people.*

### THE GLADES STAR

PUBLISHED quarterly by the Society at Oakland, MD. Entered as Periodicals Postage Paid at the Post Office of Oakland, MD.

PRINTED by the Sincell Publishing Co., Inc., Oakland, MD. FOR SALE at the Museum. Single copy \$3.75

MEMBERSHIP: Annual membership fee is \$20.00; life membership \$250.00. The four issues of this quarterly bulletin, *THE GLADES STAR*, are included with each membership.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street, Oakland, MD 21550.

CORRESPONDENCE: *Glades Star*, 107 S. Second St., Oakland. MD 21550.

## Web Site Information

- Web page with historical items:  
[www.GCHSMuseum.com](http://www.GCHSMuseum.com)
- *The Republican* Newspaper:  
[www.therepublicannews.com](http://www.therepublicannews.com)
- Chamber of Commerce:  
[www.garrettchamber.com](http://www.garrettchamber.com)
- Spruce Forest events email:  
[tmorgan@spruceforest.org](mailto:tmorgan@spruceforest.org)
- Society Museum in Oakland:  
phone: 301-334-3226

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# *Tableland Bruins*

*by Paul Durham*



Proud hunters with a bruin. Photo taken in front of Bell's Studio in Oakland in 1931. (Courtesy Maryland State Archives)

America's experience with bears is steeped in both fact and myth, often accompanied by images of wilderness, danger and adventure. When the first European colonists arrived on the Atlantic coast, the North American Black Bear had filled the storytelling traditions of the Native Americans for hundreds, maybe thousands, of years. Their experience with bears was immortalized in their legends, cave paintings, the walls of their lodges, their dress, and even in their own names.

European settlers brought with them a different sense of what would be acceptable in the New World. Bears

were not on the list of most desired neighbors. Wilderness was something to be tamed, and with that taming came the eradication of anything that threatened one's success in settling the land, especially at a time when such settlement had financial and personal risks. Early stories from settlers told of burning out undergrowth to push back undesirable "varmint"—vermin which were thought to infest farms and settlements.

Western Maryland was prime bear country when settlers arrived here in the early 1800s. Along the seaboard back East, bears were only a distant memory after they had been pushed



out or eradicated in the 1600s and 1700s. Settlers had been taught that bears were a danger. The need for personal protection and for that of their livestock and crops prevailed in most people's minds. The ridges and valleys of the Appalachians and our own Highlands, being relatively untouched, provided a safe harbor for thousands of black bears attracted by the dense woodlands mixed with glades. The stage was set for confrontation.

The famous local hunter Meshach Browning in his 1859 book *Forty-Four Years of the Life of a Hunter* gives us a glimpse of early life with bears in Garrett County. Meshach reported killing "three bears in about four hours" and later having an "exciting fight with a bear." On one hunt he reported killing as many as seventeen bears. These events reflected the mindset of the time, if a bear was seen it was meant to be immediately killed or hunted down.

Bear hunting was commonplace in Maryland after the Civil War. Maryland later maintained a formal bear hunting season after scientific wildlife management became popular in the early 1900s. However, this approach did not result in a sustainable population of bears. In addition to hunting, the long term loss of woodland habitat and expanding agricultural land is thought to have led to a reduced population of bears. Maryland's last black bear hunting season was held in 1953. For more than three decades afterwards, rural Western Marylanders would hear of

occasional sightings of bears. In 1972 the black bear was formally listed as an "endangered species" in Maryland.

Being young and from Maryland, my first experience with a black bear was in 1968 on a ridge in North Carolina, along a roadside and in one of the infamous "bear jams" in the Great Smoky Mountains. Park Rangers were more concerned with directing traffic while scores of tourists scampered to take photos of the cubs in a trash can or an adult bear leaning into a car window to eat a cookie. In nearby Gatlinburg, bears were corralled into a stockade enclosure and put on display for a dollar a person. Somehow, America's taste for bears had been transformed from an animal to be feared and loathed to one of a curious plaything content to be acting outside of its natural habit, and habitat.

Later in the 1970s I studied wildlife management in college and learned that black bears were now increasing their numbers and range in the eastern states. This was occurring through a combination of factors, including decades of hunting restrictions and a general maturing of the eastern hardwood forests. Black bears did exist and were thriving outside of Maryland. At the time the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains in Shenandoah National Park were estimated to have a population of one bear per square mile and the Park Service was experimenting with ways that visitors could adapt to the presence of bears.

Lessons learned in that natural Blue Ridge laboratory would benefit



**Protestors against Maryland's bear hunt in Annapolis (*Washington Post*).**

Garrett County more than twenty years later. When I began managing Deep Creek Lake in 1989, DNR had already adopted a bear sighting report system. Black bears were routinely traveling through Garrett County from West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Deep Creek Lake State Park quickly experienced interactions and conflict between bears and visitors, primarily campers. We consulted with the staff at Shenandoah and adopted many of the tactics that they knew worked to minimize problems, things such as the proper storage of food and trash. We soon adopted Maryland's first nuisance bear management program in the state park system. DNR also adopted many of the same tactics as it sought to encourage private landowners to coexist with bears. Negative interaction increased and bears were no longer, in many people's minds, the curious attraction they may have once been.

The stage was again set for confrontation. As bear interaction increased many people thought that DNR had gone too far in encouraging people to adapt to bears, rather than having bears adapt to people. Farmers were particularly aggrieved when wild bears destroyed their crops. They often viewed environmentalists as more talk than action. Many blamed them for not stepping up to the plate to help fund a compensation program designed to help farmers who lost crops to bears. Bears would occasionally break into vehicles, homes and storage buildings. Adapting to bears was a much more difficult challenge than originally envisioned and, despite the claims of animal rights activists, impossible to fully achieve.

Calls for a bear hunt increased. Administrations in Annapolis resisted a bear season for a combination of reasons, often political. By 2004, the population of bears in Western Mary-

land had increased to the point that biologists felt that a limited managed hunting season could be successfully held. Even with ongoing hunting seasons in adjoining Pennsylvania and West Virginia, bear populations were increasing. Public reaction to a hunt ranged from support on one end to vocal disappointment from animal rights advocates on the other. Many local landowners wanted a more aggressive hunt. DNR managed from the middle of public opinion and held a short but successful hunt, the first one in more than fifty years.

DNR now holds annual hunts and its research is showing signs of an expansion of the bear population elsewhere in the state. In April of 2009, a black bear that had roamed the Eastern Shore for months was captured in Queenstown by DNR and later released in Washington County. The bear had been tagged by biologists in New Jersey a year earlier! Black bear management is now an interstate issue requiring cooperation and management across jurisdictions. Bears are now commonly seen in the most unexpected places.

Several years ago my wife Mary Ellen and I were sitting on our front porch on 2nd Street in Oakland, when we heard a terrific racket coming from the dumpsters behind Gregg's Pharmacy. We assumed that someone was just emptying some trash until we saw a black bear trot from behind Burdock's Funeral Home and run north up 2nd Street. Our own backyards and that of the bear had become one and the same!

The political side of the issue still prevails. Each legislative session there are some representatives in the General Assembly who threaten a bill to end the annual bear hunt. Local Senator George Edwards keeps a bill drafted and ready to counter such proposals, which would require that bears must be relocated to the rest of the state. This ritual of competing bills and values usually plays itself out each legislative session, if not on the floor of the assembly, at least in the newspapers. Our local abundance of black bears has once again become part of both the political and natural landscape here in Garrett County.

This is the last issue of Vol 11. It's time to get all your Vol. 11 *Glades Stars* together for binding. Information on binding will appear in the first issue of Vol. 12 in March 2011, and we can save money if you remove the staples from your copies.



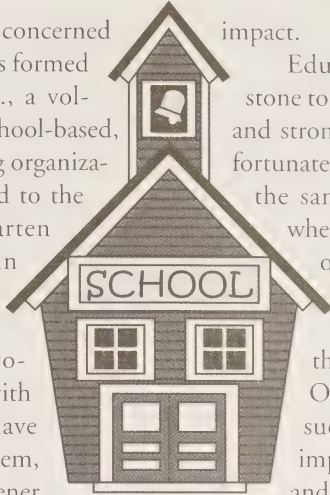
# Garrett Mentors, Inc.

by Tricia Cheesman with Joan and Offutt Johnson

In 2008 a group of concerned and dedicated adults formed Garrett Mentors, Inc., a volunteer, non-profit, school-based, one-on-one mentoring organization that is committed to the children in kindergarten through 5th grade in Garrett County elementary schools. Garrett Mentors provides these children with a mentor who will have weekly contact with them, be a friend, a good listener, and provide school support where needed. Our goal is to help these at-risk children reach their full potential through professionally supported one-on-one relationships that have a measurable

impact.

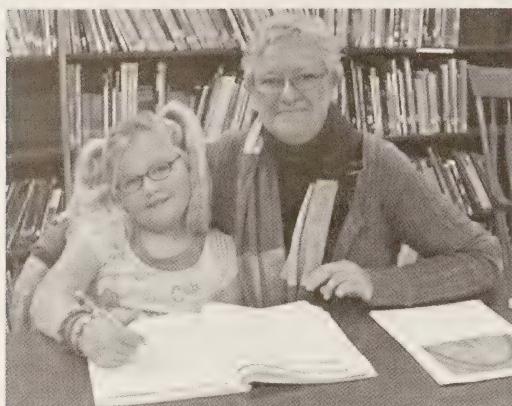
Education is the cornerstone to building bright futures and stronger communities. Unfortunately, not all children have the same advantages in life, whether socially, financially, or academically. Garrett Mentors, Inc., is looking to change that, one child at a time. Our focus is on academic success by instilling the importance of good grades and higher learning, sharing knowledge and experiences, teaching skills needed to succeed in life, providing stability, instilling values, building confidence and self-esteem, helping the children discover their strengths,



**"Inspire by Example"**



Mentors and Study Buddies warming up after annual snow tubing event at the Wisp.



**Study Buddy Wendy and Mentor Victoria Johnson hitting the books.**

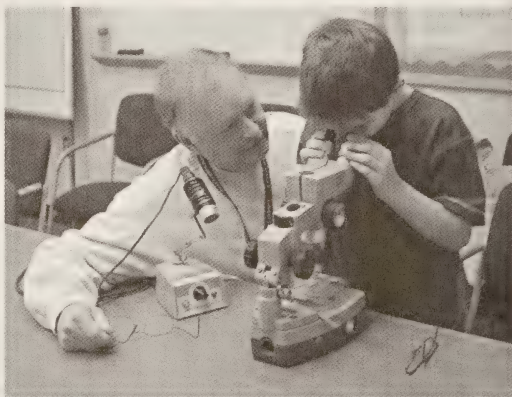
and setting goals to achieve dreams.

The children served come from homes with challenging family situations which include single parent families, incarcerated parents, parents who lack reading skills, etc. These situations put these children at-risk for poor school work, low respect for teachers and peers, and high absenteeism. Basically the children are great kids who just require a little extra attention. With strong support from the Garrett County Board of Education and school principals, the children are confidentially identified by school teachers and counselors. The mentor and child, known as "Study Buddies," are matched based on location of school, personalities, preferences, and personal interests. The mentors are given preliminary information about the child they are getting to know and the strengths and weaknesses that they should be

focusing on.

Prospective mentors fill out an application, undergo a national background check and are interviewed by the Director, before they are approved to work with a child. The mentors are all volunteers and come from varied walks of life. They range in age from early 20s to 84. They may be college students, work full time, or be retired. The mentors all have two things

in common—they love children and appreciate the value of education. The mentor's role is to provide a stable adult figure who is able to offer a consistent and sustaining relationship; to foster a one-on-one friendship; to be a responsible role model; to be a confidant and helper—to "Inspire by Example." The volunteer mentors spend lunch and recess time with the same child once a week during the school year. Volunteer mentors have a huge positive impact in the lives of



**Kenny and his Mentor, Don Cople, have been together for five years.**



**Garrett Mentors officers and supporters gather for refreshment before the Mentors' Annual Barn Dance. Left to right are Tricia Cheesman, Pam Gray, Tim Thomas and wife Paula (seated in front), Joan Johnson, and Bill Cheesman.**

these children. Most mentors have indicated that they get more out of the program than the children, because nothing is more rewarding than helping a child and watching him or her learn and grow. And, the children claim that the "study buddy" hour is one of the big highlights of their school week.

The Garrett Mentors program is currently available in all Garrett County elementary schools. Although the program has been met with nothing but positive reviews from the Board of Education, parents, mentors, principals, and teachers since its inception, there is still a shortage of mentors with over 20 children still on the waiting list. Our wish is that all the children who need this important experience will be matched with a Study Buddy and the wait list will be a thing of the past.

Eighty-seven Garrett County

elementary students are spending an hour a week with eighty adult mentors who visit the elementary schools during the school year. The children look forward to their special day and time with their mentor. Some of the other children in the school who see these students receiving this one-on-one attention have expressed a desire to have a Study Buddy!! Teachers and counselors have also noted that many non-mentored children have shown a genuine interest in being assigned a mentor. The Study Buddies eat lunch together, talk about the child's personal life, play educational games and work on things that may be academically challenging for the child, all while developing a caring relationship. Ideally the mentor and child would start together in kindergarten and continue the relationship throughout elementary school.

While the focus is on academics





**Mentors Camille and Ed Spur (left) with Garrett Mentors Friends Debbie and Maurey Feinstein at the Annual Barn Dance.**

during the time the mentor and child spend together as Study Buddies, the children are taken on social outings from time to time. This allows the Study Buddies to share new experiences and develop a closer bond through planned group activities throughout the year. The learning process continues outside the classroom as the children learn how to get along with others, good manners, and socialization skills. Every time the Study Buddies get together, the children are learning something to carry with them as they grow into productive citizens for our county. Trips have included Fun Land as guests of Sara and Tom Kuhn, a rehearsal of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra courtesy of the Garrett Lakes Arts Festival, snow tubing at Wisp, an-

nual picnic on the lake at Anna Bishop's cottage, and a special Christmas party.

Can one hour a week make a difference? You bet it can!! Mentors and teachers agree that an hour a week does make a difference. Studies have shown that the children are more confident in school work performance which results in higher grades, better attendance, paying attention in class, respect for teachers and peers, and an overall more positive attitude toward learning because of the Garrett Mentors program.

Outside the classroom setting, the children get along better with their families, are less likely to skip school, and less likely to begin using alcohol and/or drugs. Children who have worked with a mentor have seldom been involved with discipline problems. No mentored children have needed to be academically held back. All those involved have seen firsthand the positive results in the children and their direct effect on the community as a whole, now and in the future when these children contribute to a brighter and stronger community.

Garrett Mentors is composed completely of volunteers, including its active, hard-working Board of Directors. There is one paid staff position—the Director. The Board meets monthly and supports the Director, helping to recruit new volunteers;



**Great fun and lots of music at the Annual Barn Dance.**

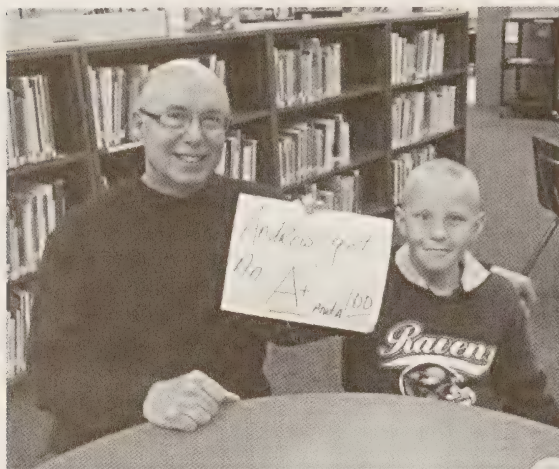
ensuring that a trained professional matches the volunteers with the children; offering ongoing contact, supervision and support for every match; and providing cultural and social activities to enrich experiences and opportunities for the children.

Garrett Mentors, Inc., is a member of the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of Garrett County United Way, partners with Oakland Rotary Club, and assists with Landon's Library. The organization depends on the kindness and generosity of the local community with both time and financial assistance. There are many ways folks can help Garrett Mentors and the at-risk elementary school children of Garrett County. We need folks to assist with agency-sponsored group activities,

such as the annual holiday party, the annual picnic on the lake, the annual Barn Dance Fundraiser, sell Rotary fries at the fair, research and write grants, serve on the Board, or by making a tax deductible contribution.

Garrett Mentors is appreciative to the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church for providing office space; to the Garrett County Historical Society for the use of the Littman Building window to feature a Back to School Theme with Study Buddies each August/September and to First United Bank for the use of its window to feature Mentor Month during January and February. The sky's the limit on volunteer opportunities to serve this special group of Garrett County children.

Garrett Mentors, Inc, has four



**Mentor Frank Shap helps his Study Buddy, Andrew, get better grades.**

fundraisers throughout the year: Valentine's Day Breakfast at the Southern Rescue Squad Hall, selling Rotary World Famous French Fries at the track during fair week, No-Hands Ice Cream Contest at the Lakeside Creamery the Sunday of Autumn Glory Week, and our signature event—a Barn Dance at Ridgeview Valley the 3rd Saturday of September.

Garrett Mentors, Inc., is grateful to Ridgeview Valley for its generous sponsorship of the annual Barn Dance, held in the beautifully restored, rustic and historic barn on the old Harvey Farm which was established as a dairy farm in 1911. The original farmhouse was built in the late 1800s and is currently used as the Preview Center for residential development. The setting of this former productive farm is picturesque with rich land and tall trees. The scenic valley floor presents a panoramic circular vista as the valley rises through

meadow and field to a spectacular ridge offering an expansive view. The farm flourished and gained a reputation for the tasty maple syrup produced from the maple trees on the land and the first-rate horse feed that the fertile land produced. Today the site of the farm is known as Ridgeview Valley, a beautiful new community at Deep Creek Lake.

Garrett Mentors, Inc., invites you to go boot-scooting back in time and join us each year on the 3rd Saturday of September when this century old barn comes alive with an old-fashioned Barn Dance. Good music, fun, and fellowship! Delicious food and drink! Silent Auction and raffle drawings! Music fills the air as dancers take to the floor! Ray Miller's Dream Rides surrey goes rolling on the ridge pulled along with Belgians Bud and Bill! It's like stepping back into a Currier and Ives print of an earlier time in the life of Garrett County. An event not to be missed!! All proceeds benefit Garrett County kindergarten through 5th grade elementary school children.

For more information about Garrett Mentors, Inc., contact Tricia Cheesman, the Director at 301-334-1783. Be sure to visit our website at [www.garrettmentors.org](http://www.garrettmentors.org). Donations can be sent to 21339 Garrett Highway, Oakland, MD 21550.



# *Was Johnny Appleseed Ever in Maryland?*

*by Paul Shogren*

**I**nteresting question. The answer is, "Maybe."

In a Google search and from books listed in the bibliography, I surmise that, according to legend, he could have passed through the state while hiking along Braddock's Road sometime in the late 1790s or early 1800s carrying his apple seed supplies west to plant in the Ohio Territory.

He left no written autobiography. We do know he was born John Chapman in Leominster, Massachusetts, in 1774 and died in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1845. In between we know the following:

1. After the Revolutionary War the family moved to Longmeadow, Massachusetts.

2. In 1792 with his half brother, Nathaniel, he left home and headed west.

3. There is a written record of them living in Warren County, Pennsylvania. In a ledger kept by storekeeper John Daniels, he recorded purchases made by John and Nathaniel during 1797 and 1798. During that time legend has it that John established his first nursery along Brokenstraw Creek near Warren, Pennsylvania.

4. John and Nathaniel parted company. Thereafter, Nathaniel joined his family now settled near

Marietta, Ohio. John traveled elsewhere and arrived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and via the Ohio River entered Ohio somewhere opposite Wheeling, West Virginia, to head west along Zane's Trace around 1800 at the age of 26.

More legend and speculation set in. One legend has both John and Nathaniel along the Potomac River picking seeds from the pomace from cider mills in the late 1790s. There is also the assumption that John alone, once in Ohio, could have returned periodically to collect seeds from Potomac River cider mills when he need to replenish his seed supply. The Braddock Road in the early 1800s was known as a safe route to travel to avoid contact with Indians and possible trouble from them.

Something more needs to be known about John: He was a convert to the Church of the New Jerusalem, commonly known as the Swedenborgian Church, named after Emanuel Swedenborg. This church was and is still headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and had adherents between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. That said, John could have traveled east of Pittsburgh picking up pomace as well as Swedenborgian literature from his church contacts. Also during his eight year peregrination (1792-



# Drawing the Line; Maryland's Fight for Her Western Boundary

by Earl Eisenhart

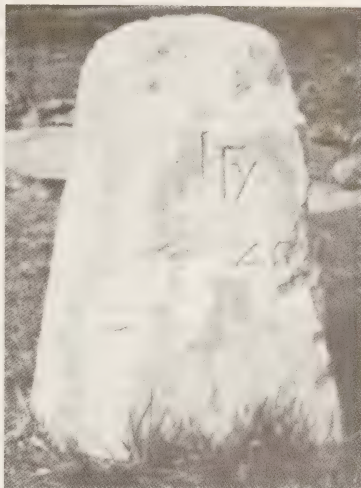
**M**aryland was one of the original 13 colonies. It became a state in 1788, the seventh to ratify the Constitution. As such, the borders of our beloved state have been well established for over 200 years.

Or have they?

Actually, Maryland has had heated disputes over boundary lines with each of her neighboring states, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Delaware, at various points in her history. Perhaps none of these quarrels is more interesting than the "Case of the Deakins Line."

During the War for Independence, the Maryland legislature offered land grants as a bounty to entice recruits: *"Every effective recruit is to receive, besides the continental allowances, a bounty of forty dollars, a pair of shoes, a pair of stockings, and at the expiration of his term, provided he shall not desert from the army, 50 acres of land..."*

These properties were all to



**The Fairfax Stone.**

be located in what was then wilderness "westward of Fort Cumberland"; present day Allegany and Garrett counties. However, the area had never been properly surveyed.

By a resolution passed in April 1787, the governor was requested *"to appoint and employ some skilful person to lay out the manors,*

*and such parts of the reserve and vacant lands, belonging to this state, lying to the west of Fort Cumberland, as he may think fit and capable of being settled and improved, in lots of fifty acres each..."* The following year, surveyor Francis Deakins was commissioned to do this work.

In order to know the western boundary for the lots, Deakins needed to know where Maryland ended and Virginia (now West Virginia) began. Deakins started with the famous "Fairfax Stone," a monument set by Peter Jefferson (Thomas' father) and Thomas Lewis in 1649 on behalf of Lord Fairfax.



Lord Fairfax's land grant from the British Crown entitled him to lands south of the Potomac River to its westernmost source while territory north and east of this point was part of the Colony of Maryland. The westernmost source of the Potomac is where the Stone was supposed to have been placed. It wasn't. Jefferson and Lewis made the mistake of assuming this point was the wellspring of the river's Northern Branch (near present day Kempton, Maryland) when in fact the Southern Branch originates some 40 miles to the south near present day Hightown, Virginia. To complicate matters further, Fairfax's surveyors didn't correctly cite the source of the Northern Branch either! In fact there were at least two feeder streams that originated to the west of where the Stone was set.

Nonetheless Francis Deakins in 1788 accepted the Fairfax Stone, which after all had been there for almost 140 years, as the recognized boundary marker. He then set about to draw a line running north to Pennsylvania as the western limit of the lands he was charged with surveying.

He did this in a somewhat haphazard manner. As a later surveyor noted, the line "was not very correctly run." This was not entirely Deakins' fault as his equipment was primitive and the landscape rugged. From the Fairfax Stone, his line meandered this way and that some 34 miles to the Pennsylvania border. This became known as the "Deakins Line" or the "Old Maryland Line".

Deakins completed his work and the "military lots" were subsequently parceled to Maryland's Revolutionary vets. But the trouble was really just beginning. For more than a century, Maryland and Virginia, and later West Virginia would squabble over the legitimacy of the "Deakins Line."

In 1818 the Maryland legislature sought to open a dialogue with Virginia to resolve the dispute. Maryland was prepared to relinquish claim to lands south of the Potomac's North Branch and thought the Virginians might be receptive. Both states appointed commissioners. But the Virginia commissioners' hands were tied. The Virginia legislature in effect demanded they stick to the Fairfax Stone maker as the westernmost point. This did not go over well in Maryland. As stated in a later brief, *"The spirit of amity and concession, which had animated all her (Maryland's) proceedings in her repeated efforts to close this controversy, had been met at every stage by obstinate adherence on the part of Virginia to the full extent of her pretended claims; and it did not become [Maryland] as a State to submit herself supinely to any terms which the latter might dictate."*

Maryland's position was that Deakins had never been charged with defining the border, only setting off lots, and moreover, the line was fatally flawed, because its southernmost point did not originate at the true source of the Potomac, long understood (at least by Maryland) to be Maryland's southwest terminus. Maryland commissioned a new survey

in 1859 which established conclusively that Deakins had failed to trace a true-north meridian as prescribed in Maryland's charter. This latter survey, performed by a Lt. Michler, drew a new line which terminated at the north Pennsylvania border some distance west from the Deakins marker, effectively slicing off about nine square miles of Virginia and giving it to Maryland. Not surprisingly, Virginia declined to acknowledge this adjustment.

Virginia also refused to budge from the Fairfax Stone as the legitimate boundary marker. This position did not change with the creation of West Virginia in 1863. By the late 1800s Maryland had given up on an amicable settlement and decided to take her "obstinate" neighbor to court.

In preparation for suit before the Supreme Court, Maryland commissioned yet another survey in 1897 to finally determine the westernmost source of the Potomac. The area at the time was described by counsel for Maryland as *"... almost a perfect wilderness, and it was a matter of not infrequent occurrence for those engaged upon their work, to see evidence of the presence of deer, bear and other animals which have their home in a region of virgin forest, wild, unbroken and uninhabited."* This colorful reference amounted to a bit of extra-legal hyperbole intended to undermine West Virginia's contention that the area was "well settled" with residents who fully believed themselves to be West Virginians.

In any event, the 1897 surveyors, W. McCulloh Brown and D. L. Bauer, were directed by Maryland to establish the "true source" of the North Branch and to run a new boundary line. Brown and Bauer set a stone at the spring of a tributary to the Potomac which originated some 9,000 feet northwest of where the Fairfax Stone was placed. This new monument they christened the "Potomac Stone." From this point they traced yet another line due north to the Pennsylvania border. The Brown-Bauer line ended up intersecting the Pennsylvania line some 6,000 feet west of Michler and even further west of Deakins. This gave Maryland a whopping 45 square miles of disputed territory and became the basis of her claim before the Supreme Court.

There were several families living in the disputed area at the time with names familiar in the area today: Browning, Friend, Van Sickle, Sines, Sisler, Savage, Teets and Fike. In response to Maryland's claim, West Virginia sought testimony from a number of these landowners. With few exceptions, they held title in West Virginia, paid taxes there, voted and sent their kids to West Virginia schools. Some of the patents dated to the 1780s. Interestingly, several of the old timers spoke of residing in "Virginia", though West Virginia had been a state for nearly 50 years. For her part, Maryland was able to show that several tracts west of the Deakins line carried Maryland title.

Notably, one Samuel Faulkner

insisted he lived in Maryland, despite the fact that nearly all his neighbors claimed to be in West Virginia. As it turned out, all but two or three families in the disputed territory voted, paid taxes and sent their kids to school in West Virginia.

Another witness for Maryland was 85 year old Thomas Browning, son of the famous pioneer Meshach Browning, who remembered as a boy hearing that the boundary line at Cranesville Spring had been drawn some ways west of where most other nearby residents believed it to be.

Maryland also brought to bear the testimony of one Austin Brown, who served as Garrett County constable in 1886. Brown held a warrant for the arrest of Marshall Reckard, accused of stealing hogs from a Mr. Friend. Brown tracked Reckard a short piece west across the Old Maryland Line where Reckard "resisted and hit him with a double-headed axe." With the assistance of a neighbor, Reckard was eventually arrested. He was charged with "felonious assault with intent to kill" and tried in Garrett County Circuit Court.

Attempting to have the case thrown out, Reckard claimed the court had no jurisdiction because the alleged assault occurred in West Virginia. The court rejected this argument, ruling that the defendant had to "affirmatively prove" the incident did not occur east of the boundary. Reckard was subsequently convicted by a Maryland jury in a Maryland court. The state cited this application

of judicial authority as evidence she had exercised jurisdiction west of the Deakins Line.

Sadly for Maryland, the Supreme Court found these arguments un-compelling. Conceding Maryland's point that the 1897, drawn by Brown and Bauer "more fully answers the call" of the state's original charter, the Court nonetheless upheld West Virginia's claim. Writing for the Court, Justice William Day said occupation of the disputed land had "for many years . . . been with reference to the Deakins line as the boundary line." "The people have generally accepted it and have adopted it," he wrote, "and the facts in this connection cannot be ignored."

Moreover, "[e]ven if a meridian boundary line is not astronomically correct, it should not be overthrown after it has been recognized for many years and become the basis for public and private rights of property."

The Court decreed that a final, permanent line be drawn and marked that traced the original Deakins Line "as near as may be." Hence a final boundary survey was performed in 1912 that almost, but not quite, tracks the old line. The Court-appointed surveyors made four offsets of several hundred yards each in order to "fit" the Deakins Line to long-established property holdings. The offsets are not visible on most state maps.

The western border of Maryland is neither straight nor is it true, but, for the last 100 years, at least we've known where it is.



# John Grant Remembers December 1941

by Marilyn Regentin

John Grant, our local historian and citizen extraordinaire, is no newcomer among us. As one who grew up in the county and eventually returned with his wife, Jean, to live in the Second Street house where he had spent his childhood, John served first as Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Deer Park and then retired. He retired, but, as we all know, John has not remained idle, working tirelessly over the years to share his knowledge of Garrett County and its people in both written and oral form.

One story that John remembers well began for him in Baltimore on December 8, 1941. As a 17-year-old freshman at Johns Hopkins University, he was sitting in a movie theater late in the afternoon on that day. He doesn't remember the name of the movie or the day of the week, he simply remembers that near the end of the movie, he heard a commotion outside the theater, and when he went out after the movie was over, he saw lots of people gathering around a newsboy who was shouting "Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" People were scooping up copies of a special edition of the *Baltimore Sun*. America had been attacked at Pearl Harbor.

"Most Americans," says John, "knew at that time that a war was going on and that the country might

well enter it soon. They knew that England was fighting Germany, and that President Roosevelt stayed in close contact with Winston Churchill. What they didn't know," he says, "was where Pearl Harbor was. We didn't know much about Hawaii in those days, and we had never heard of Pearl Harbor. We thought it was in the Aleutian Islands." John remembers staying up late that night talking in the dorm. "It was as if we knew on some level that we might not be able to remain in college for the next three and a half years as we had thought we would. This was serious, but to a man, everyone thought that Pearl Harbor was probably in the Aleutian Islands."

John and his friends had entered college at what seems to us to be a young age.

However, schools in many jurisdictions in the country at that time went only as high as grade eleven. For these students on that December night, however, college graduation would come later rather than early, and for some, not at all. Most would go off to fight; and many, like John Grant, would resume their studies after the war with a GI Bill.

A week later John Grant went to the B&O Railroad Station in Baltimore and boarded a train for Oakland. It was getting close to

Christmas, and he was going home. If war was on his mind during that train ride, it was probably at the back of his mind. "I was thinking about the Christmas tree my dad would put up in the corner of the living room," he says, "with colored lights." John remembers his dad getting a pine tree from a man who came from Swallow Falls each year. And there were always colored lights on the tree and around the house and on the trees outside as well. As John says, "Colored lights were also up and down Alder Street and in the commercial section of Second Street." When John talks about these lights, it is clear that he is talking about the magic of Christmas for him growing up in Oakland. Everywhere throughout the 1930s he remembers colored lights inside and outside the stores. "And there were so many shops, then," he says, "and all of them were decorated with Christmas trees in the display windows."

As John walked toward Second Street from the Oakland Train Station

in December of 1941, he saw that Christmas lights had been installed as expected up and down the streets. Things seemed normal, quiet, with nothing unusual happening. When he went up the sidewalk toward his own house, he could see his dad standing on the porch. From a distance he thought he saw a string of lights in his dad's hands. He started to run; and then he saw his mother come out the front door wearing an apron. He imagined he could almost smell the Christmas cookies he thought she must be baking. His mouth started to water as he approached the house. He'd have to sample some of them hot out of the oven. Suddenly he remembered. They would no doubt have dinner early that evening, for he remembered that tonight was one of the nights that three Oakland churches would be going Christmas caroling. Choir members from St. Matthew's Episcopal Church would count on him to join them. This was going to be a good Christmas.

## *Do you know ...*

What section of Garrett County is known as Celtic Valley? Georges Creek Valley, which runs from Frostburg to Westernport, with the Irish around Midland, the Welsh in Barton, and the Scots in between at Lonaconing.

## *Stanley P. Smith Family Foundation Tours For All Of Garrett County's Fourth Graders Celebrate A Tenth Anniversary*

4th Graders from Grantsville Elementary. Norma Rickman, tour guide.



In the fall of 2010 the GCHS celebrated the 10th year of its wonderful program for transporting all county fourth graders to the county museum each year for guided tours—tours which complement the local history units taught in our elementary schools.

This wonderful educational program has been generously sponsored each year since 2001 by the Stanley P. Smith Family Foundation of Oakland. The GCHS wishes to pub-

licly "Thank" Mr. Smith and Patrick Conroy for all of their efforts on our behalf and for providing all of the transportation funds necessary to bring each elementary school class to the museum in Oakland each year. This program has also brought an additional benefit of many follow-up visits to the museum by parents, grandparents and siblings of the fourth graders, making the program a wonderful "outreach" to all of the citizens of Garrett County.



# *GCHS Receives The Gift Of A Very Valuable Tall Case Clock*

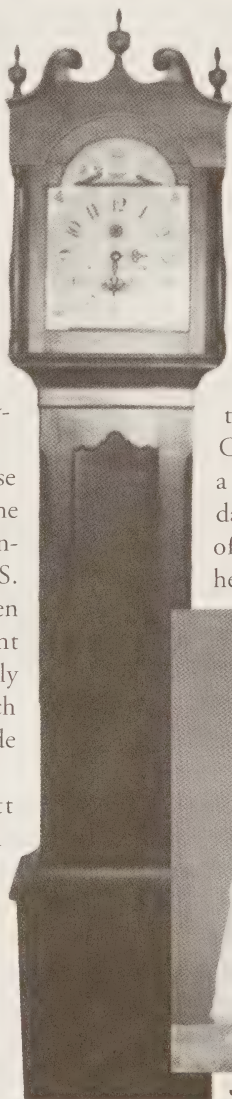
The Garrett County Museum recently received a valuable Connecticut Tall Case Clock (ca 1802) as a bequest from Garrett County native June Beachy Beckett of Inverness, Florida. June was born and raised on the John Beachy farm located on old Route 40 (the National Pike) between Grantsville and Keyser's Ridge.

The fantastic cherry case was professionally built by the famous Connecticut (nationally known) clockmaker, S. Hoadley. It has early wooden works which were thought by Mrs. Beckett to possibly predate the cherry case which shows the date "1802" inside the door.

June Beachy Beckett loved Garrett County and its historical museums. She had previously given many beautiful, historic gifts from her family home on the National Pike to the Grantsville Community Museum. In a note to the GCHS before her death in

February, June noted. "It has been my dream" to know that my beautiful clock will be enjoyed by the citizens of Garrett County in its new home at the Oakland Museum near our beautiful courthouse."

The society is much appreciative of Mrs. Beckett's generous bequest to the people of Garrett County. We also wish to send a "sincere thank you" to her daughter, Linda Godby, also of Inverness, Florida, who helped to make all arrange-



**June Beachy Beckett**

**S. Hoadley Clock**

ments for us to receive the clock.

This delicate piece of cabinetry was generously transported "free of cost" to the society's museum by Mr. Chuck Fultz of the local Delano's and of the delivery service Mustang Express. Chuck went very much out

of his way to pick up this artifact in Inverness and to deliver it safely to our museum. We send our heartfelt "thanks" to Chuck and his assistant Valerie of Delano's at Deep Creek and Accident. What wonderful gifts from Mrs. Beckett and Chuck Fultz.

# *History Of The Grandfather Clock*

*by June B. Beckett*

The clock's history in the Beckett family goes back to the early 1900s when Harry A. Beckett, attorney, Cleveland, Ohio, purchased it from a family in the mountains near Berea, Ky. Since it is an all wooden clock it probably was built in the early 1700s as will be explained later in this article.

The Becketts were visiting their brother and sister-in-law, Thomas and Amanda Osborn, when they first heard about this interesting clock, which was for sale, advertised by one of the students at the college there in Berea.

Thomas Osborn was the treasurer of the college and knew this student and his parents, so more information was available to the Becketts until they decided to make the trips up the mountain to see it. Arrangements were made with the local livery stable for a horse and buggy to make the trip. The Becketts liked what they saw and decided to buy the clock and have it shipped to the Webb C. Ball Jewelry store in Cleveland, Ohio. It was here

the clock was cleaned and put in good working order before it was delivered to them. It remained, in their home for many years until Mr. Beckett retired in 1945 and they decided to move to Schenectady, N.Y.

At that time it was moved into their son Herbert's home in Brecksville, Ohio, and became his property as well as his responsibility to wind it every night and care for it. It continued to keep good time and was enjoyed by the family until the year of 1972 when Herbert and June moved to their new home in Inverness, Florida, and brought the clock with them.

Our first year in Florida was spent remodeling our home and adjusting to our new way of life. We didn't take time to look for a clock repairman as we had it cleaned and adjusted before leaving Ohio.

The clock has historic value as it has wooden works, and the first clocks made in this country were made of wood. It is very old as can be determined by the first repair date written

by the repairman on a piece of paper posted on the back side of the large door. They wrote 1803 and signed his name which is barely legible.

Repairmen have told us that these clocks usually run 100 years before needing repairs, thus this clock is probably 296 years old.

*Garrett County Historical Society  
Account Listing Treasurer's Report  
Excludes Transportation Museum Accounts  
As of November 19, 2010*

**Active Accounts:**

**General:**

First United Checking .....	\$20,018.18
Petty Cash Fund .....	270.29

**Accounts Designated for specific projects:**

First United Naylor Technology..... (Used for Museum Technology only)	12,976.48
Leo Beachy Grantsville .....	1,655.18
(For development of Leo Beachy Glass Plates only)	
Matthew W. Novak Scholarship Fund .....	2,064.28

Total Funds on deposit .....	\$36,984.41
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No outstanding bills

<b>Monthly Rental Income .....</b>	<b>\$1,620.25</b>
#1 .....	\$740.25
#2 .....	\$302.50
#3 .....	\$165.00
#4 .....	\$275.00
#5 .....	\$137.50
#6 .....	Empty

For Overview of the Income/Expenses for

June 1, 2010 - November 19, 2010, see the Profit & Loss Sheet.

Respectfully submitted  
Joanne Ashby, Treasurer



# *The Oakland B&O Railroad Museum*

*by Terry Helbig*

In the 1990s the Town of Oakland purchased the Oakland B&O Railroad Station from CSX and then raised private donations and obtained government grants to restore the building. It then operated for years as a satellite office of the Chamber of Commerce and an artisans

village. Today it is closed and the Chamber and artisans have left.

Two years ago the Town started discussions with Courtney Wilson, the Director of the Baltimore B&O Railroad Museum, to explore making the Oakland Station a branch of the Baltimore Museum. The Ellicott City B&O Station is currently operated as a museum by the Baltimore B&O Museum in addition to the round house in Baltimore.

The Oakland Mayor and Council appointed a committee to continue working on this project and it is chaired by former Mayor Asa McCain. That committee is currently made up of twenty-one members. The goal of the Mayor & Town Council, the committee, and Courtney Wilson is, the town will continue to own the building. The Baltimore B&O Museum will operate the station with volunteers and eventually paid curators. Courtney and his staff will



provide artifacts and displays on a rotating basis to the train station.

There will be a gift shop and the baggage room will be a theater and class room to tell the story of the B&O and local history to people of all ages. The goal is for the station to be opened the same days and hours as the Garrett County Historical Society Museum and the new Transportation Museum due to open this spring. These marvelous museums will compliment each other and draw history and railroad enthusiasts to Oakland. Garrett County school children will be able to tour these facilities and learn firsthand our unique history.

To draw attention to the project the station was opened by the committee and volunteers during Autumn Glory and greeted well over 2000 visitors. It will open again during Christmas and during the Winterfest Ice Sculpture Festival.

## *Memorials*

**Mary Frantz Myers**

Pat and Jr. Steyer  
Ron and Sue Colaw

**Josh Custer**

Bob and Leanna Boal

## *Donations*

Paul and Elaine Hoye

Chuck Foltz—for  
transporting antique  
wooden clock from Florida

Stanley P. Smith

Foundation—for  
transporting 4th graders  
for tours of the museum

## *Do you know ...*

Why a December snow storm was called a Thanksgiving Blizzard? On December 1, 1974, when motorists were returning home from a Thanksgiving visit, 30 inches of snow fell, closing every major road in Garrett and Allegany Counties. Thousands were stranded during this storm when the temperature hardly fell below the 30 degree mark.

## *Do you know ...*

what mail service was like in this region and across the contry in 1858? Sparse, and especially in remote rural areas. Although the U.S. Postal Service had begun twelve years earlier in 1846, not for another forty years or more would mail service become reliable enough for the growth of the greeting card industry at Christmas.

# *Donations for Transportation Museum*

August 17, 2010 - November 10, 2010

**Wayne and Jackie Johnson**

Monetary donation in  
memory of Rita Johnson,  
Clarence and Ora McKen-  
zie, William A. and Emma  
Johnson

**J. D. Williams**

1 picture with plaque and a  
monetary donation

**Shirley Munford**

1 picture

**Michael Belmonte**

1 picture

**Roger and Barbara Levin**

1 picture

**James L. Railey, Jr.**

3 pictures

**Richard Stimpson**

1 picture

**Charles W. Buffington**

1 picture

**Joni Palmer Gautier**

1 picture

**Troy R. Gnegy**

Monetary donation for gas  
pump

**David and Dorothy Tuel**

1 picture

**Bob and Susanna Kurtz**

1 picture

**Charles McIntire**

1 picture

**Donald and Patricia Battista**

1 picture with plaque

**Edward J. and Mary Ann  
Brislin**

2 chairs in memory of Max  
Jarboe

**Bob and Leanna Boal**

1 picture in memory of  
Landon Boal

**Alfred and Margaret Thagard**

1 picture in memory of Al  
Thagard

**Jean Long**

1 picture in memory of Pip  
and Madeline Thayer

**Carole C. Perez**

1 picture in memory of Larry  
Perez

**Helen J. Patrick**

1 picture in memory of John  
"Fuzz" Patrick

**Ned Holloway**

1 picture in memory of  
Ranney, Mead, and Feld  
Families



# *Oakland Accessions*

*August 16, 2010 — November 10, 2010*

Embroidered doily, made by Carrie (Harvey) Gauer

in 1895 ..... *gift of Ida Durben*

Photo of Loch Lynn Hotel Casino Building ..... *gift of Gene Helbig*

Display of Civil War relics (Union and Confederate bullets, Union belt plate, kepi buckle, button, etc.), Sheet music "Hail! The Baltimore & Ohio" ..... *gift of Fred and Mary Warther*

Photographs of OHS Sports teams, Spring 1945 and

Fall 1945 ..... *gift of Hazel Teagarden*

Programs and correspondence from OHS Class of 1935,

50th reunion. Financial statement, 1937,

from Half Price Stores..... *gift of Linda Freyman*

Photos of various Oakland sites and areas around Deep Creek

Lake..... *gift of Grantsville Community Museum*

Wooden darning egg, shoe buttonhook with pearl handle,

ruler and oven stick from Garrett National

Bank ..... *Kathryn Gonder*

Magazine, books, and a pamphlet "This month in Garrett

County, 1974." 1983 calendar illustrated by Garrett County

artists ..... *gift of Ivan and Mabel Rowe*

Genealogy information on

Henry David Saucer ..... *gift of George Ferguson*

*Republican* newspaper—March 5, 1987,

and Nov. 7, 1985 ..... *gift of Debbie Klotz*

Record—"If Man Should Reach the Moon"

by Hank the Cowhand ..... *gift of Linda Fike*

- Map of Deep Creek Lake, Framed felt pennant of Deep  
Creek Lake..... *gift of Helen Patrick*
- Poster of the Flying Scot..... *gift of Shirley Munford*
- 8 ft. tall wooden grandfather clock (early 1700s), photo of  
June Beachy Becket, various booklets on St. John's United  
Church of Christ ..... *gift of Estate of June Beachy Beckett*
- Book—"The Railroad Gazette—1877" ..... *gift of Tom Shelton*
- B&O silverware..... *gift of Ann Englander*
- Genealogy material on Thomas and  
Mary Riley Wilson..... *gift of Dr. Michael Wolfe*
- Photo of children on steps of Oakland Hotel, oil painting of  
roses (on wood), photos of Minnie (Phillips) Hinebaugh and  
Thaddeus Hinebaugh ..... *gift of Muriel Robinson Franc*
- Deep Creek Yacht Club shot glass ..... *gift of Diane Thayer*
- Civil Defense poster (July 18,  
1942)..... *gift of Thomas and Elizabeth Fike*
- Book—"Colonial and Historic Homes of  
Maryland" ..... *gift of Gerard Maynard*
- OHS "Acorn," 1934. Photo of Camp Lee Virginia in  
WWII..... *gift of Estate of Grace White*
- Framed collection of photos of touring cars in Oakland  
in 1920s..... *gift of Ann Englander*
- Book "Woman's Kingdom" belonged to  
Mary Dailey Crook..... *gift of Howard and Pat Hoffman*
- CD of Flying Scot installation ..... *gift of Paul Durham*
- Postcard of Garrett National Bank, 1908..... *gift of Doris Feaster*

- Postcards of Cabin Lodge, and other  
Garrett County scenes ..... *gift of Paul and Alice Eary*
- Civil Defense Book on identification of  
Aircraft ..... *gift of Lt. Col. William O. Treacy*
- Civil War letter from Camp Pendleton,  
1861 ..... *gift of Natalie Atherton*
- Stock certificate from Garrett Telephone Company,  
1904 ..... *loan from Timothy Gift*
- Photograph of Oakland ..... *gift of Ron Dolan*
- Magazine on antique automobiles, assorted  
books ..... *gift of Gerard Maynard*
- Two oak arm chairs ..... *gift of Mary Anne Crawford*
- McCalls Quarterly Pattern Book ..... *gift of Shelley Booska*
- Paymaster checkwriter ..... *gift of Town of Oakland*
- Photographs of antique cars ..... *gift of Dr. and Mrs. William Savage*
- McClellan Saddle, Model 1904 ..... *gift of Susan Davis*
- Postcards of Deep Creek Lake, Loch Lynn Hotel,  
Deer Park, National Highway, Little Meadows,  
Oakland, etc ..... *gift of Fred and Mary Warther*
- Pencil drawing of Flying Scot by Aza Stanton ..... *gift of Paul Shogren*
- Pair of wool carders ..... *gift of Norman and Eva Snow*
- Assortment of doll clothes, smoking jacket, child's dresser,  
child's table and chairs, child's rocking chair,  
cat carrier ..... *gift of Sherry Gore*
- 1947 Graduation pin from Potomac Valley  
Hospital ..... *gift of Betty Ann DeBerry*



# *Application for Membership*

*Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

Membership fee is \$20 per year, single member or joint members (husband and wife).

Lifetime membership is \$250.00 per person.

Members receive the four issues of  
*The Glades Star* yearly.

Husband and wife, as joint members, receive only one copy of each of the four issues.

All memberships are on a yearly basis.

*Surprise a friend or loved one with a gift!*

*Application for Membership—Garrett County Historical Society, Inc.*

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

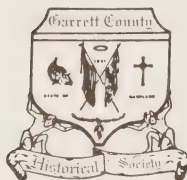
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, clip, attach check and mail to:

Garrett County Historical Society, 107 S. Second St., Oakland, MD 21550

POSTMASTER: Send address changes  
to *Glades Star*, 107 South Second Street,  
Oakland, MD 21550.

# Periodical







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